



# Ukrainian Folk Embroidery Patterns

Charted patterns adapted  
from *Український  
народний орнамент*  
by Olha Petrivna Kosach  
(Olena Pchilka)

Edited by Helen Hough



Ukrainian Folk Embroidery Patterns: Charted patterns adapted from Український народний орнамент  
by Olha Petrivna Kosach (Olena Pchilka)

Edited by Helen Hough

James G. Collins & Associates, Arlington, Texas, 2022

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Dedication: For those who are afraid, thirsty, hungry, and may be homeless.

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local investments.

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I would be surprised if any person or organization returns even a nominal donation.





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## INTRODUCTION

Nearly 150 years ago, in 1876, Олена Пчілка (Olena Pchilka) presented her notable volume on Ukrainian folk patterns, *Український народний орнамент: вишивки, тканини, писанки* (Ukrainian Folk Ornament: Embroidery, Fabrics, Easter Eggs), winning the first grand prix at the 1st World Exhibition in Paris.

Olena Pchilka was the pen name of Olha Petrivna Kosach (1849–1930), a Ukrainian publisher, author, ethnographer, interpreter, social and cultural activist, and research fellow of the Pan-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

Although the Ukrainian folk ornament book was republished five times during Kosach's lifetime, only the first edition includes a foreword that provides information about traditional Ukrainian embroidery and has explanations of the symbols and ornaments on each page of the album. As a result of her scholarship, she was able to clearly distinguish between Ukrainian and Russian ornamentation, noting the typical geometric patterns of Ukrainian embroidery, many of which displayed protective charms.

The earliest embroidery was done using red thread on white fabric. The early red colors were created using marjoram or cochineal. Occasionally there was some blue or gray but true black dye was not available until the later 1800s. Additional natural dyes provided yellow-browns and various gray-green tones. Later introduction of aniline dyes encouraged embroidery artists to branch out into highly colorful work.

Although no known complete copy of the original volume currently exists, a sufficient number of partial texts were able to be identified and consulted to enable a modern reproduction of *Український народний орнамент: вишивки, тканини, писанки* in 2010 : *Український народний орнамент: вишивки, тканини, писанки* : зібрала Ольга Петрівна Косач-Драгоманова (Олена Пчілка), Вип. VIII / вступ. ст. Н. Сташенко, уклад.: В. Комзюк, Н. Пушкар. – Ковель : Ковельська міська друкарня, 2010. – 36 с. : 33 іл. – 300 прим. 8.

In 2018, a more comprehensive reprint was made available. Unfortunately, both editions had relatively small print runs and a copy may be difficult to obtain.

The version of Kosach's work provided here is not a reprint; it is a version only of the embroidery elements which are sorted by size, not by technique. The images were found from a variety of websites and transcribed to fit the format of this publication.

I sincerely recommend looking at least one of the Ukrainian editions if you can find one. They are beautiful and interesting works.

### References

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Hromadska, Larysa. (2015, September 17). "Tetiana Serebrennikova: 'Olena Pchilka was deeply concerned that our ancient embroideries might be forgotten'" The project "Ethnographic embroidery" promotes the fashion for Ukrainian embroidery. The Day, No. 52. <https://day.kyiv.ua/en/article/time-out/tetiana-serebrennikova-olena-pchilka-was-deeply-concerned-our-ancient-embroideries>

*Український народний орнамент Ольги Петрівни Косач* [https://kandy-ukraine.blogspot.com/2018/09/blog-post\\_24.html](https://kandy-ukraine.blogspot.com/2018/09/blog-post_24.html)





# Contents

## Introduction

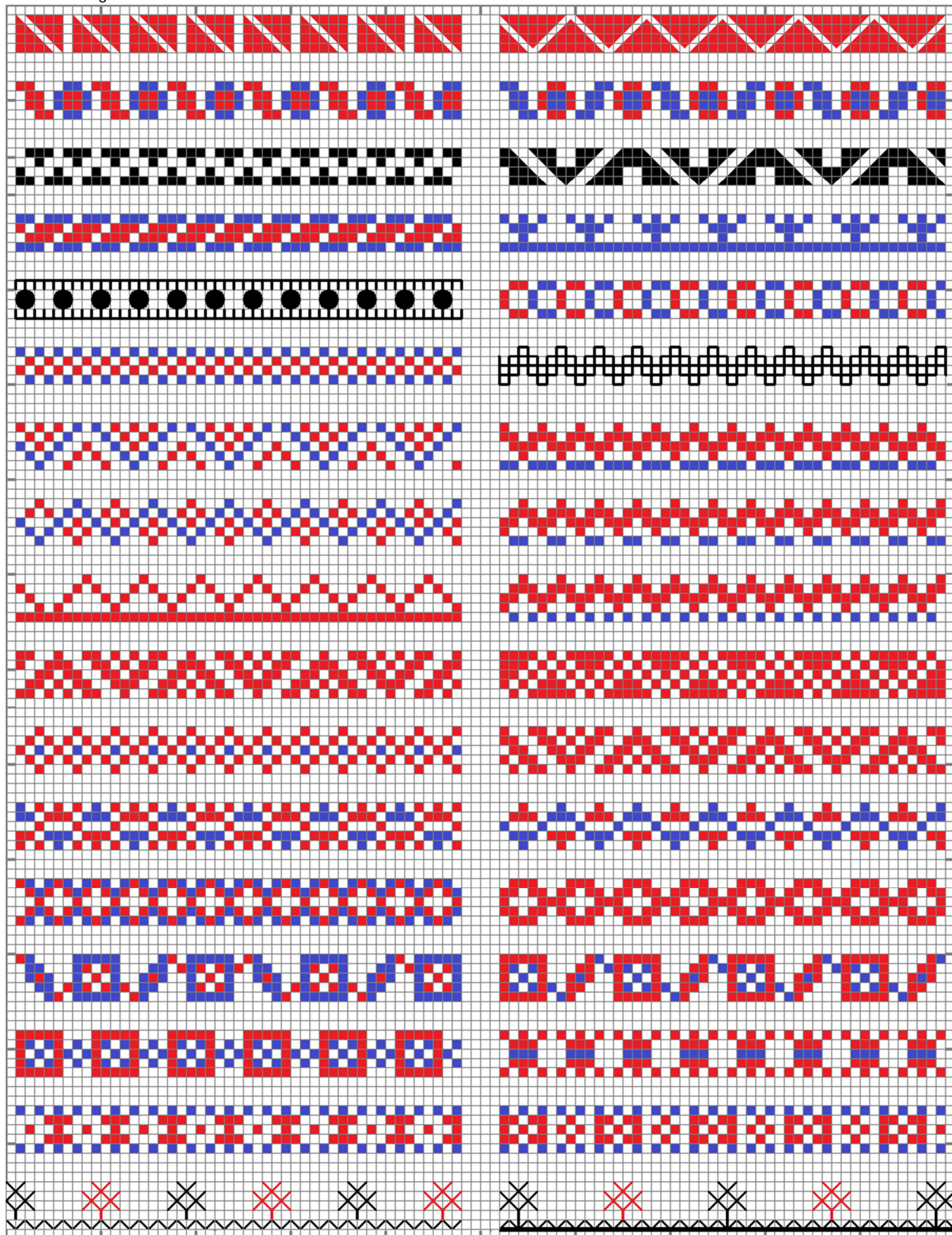
Bands (sorted by height)	1
Corners and Frames	59
Plackets & Cuff/Collars	64
Blocks and Medallions	65
Fills	72

There may be some design overlaps between patterns in different categories. It still may useful to looks through the categories to see, for example, how bands are formatted to create frames or how medallions may be arranged to create fills.



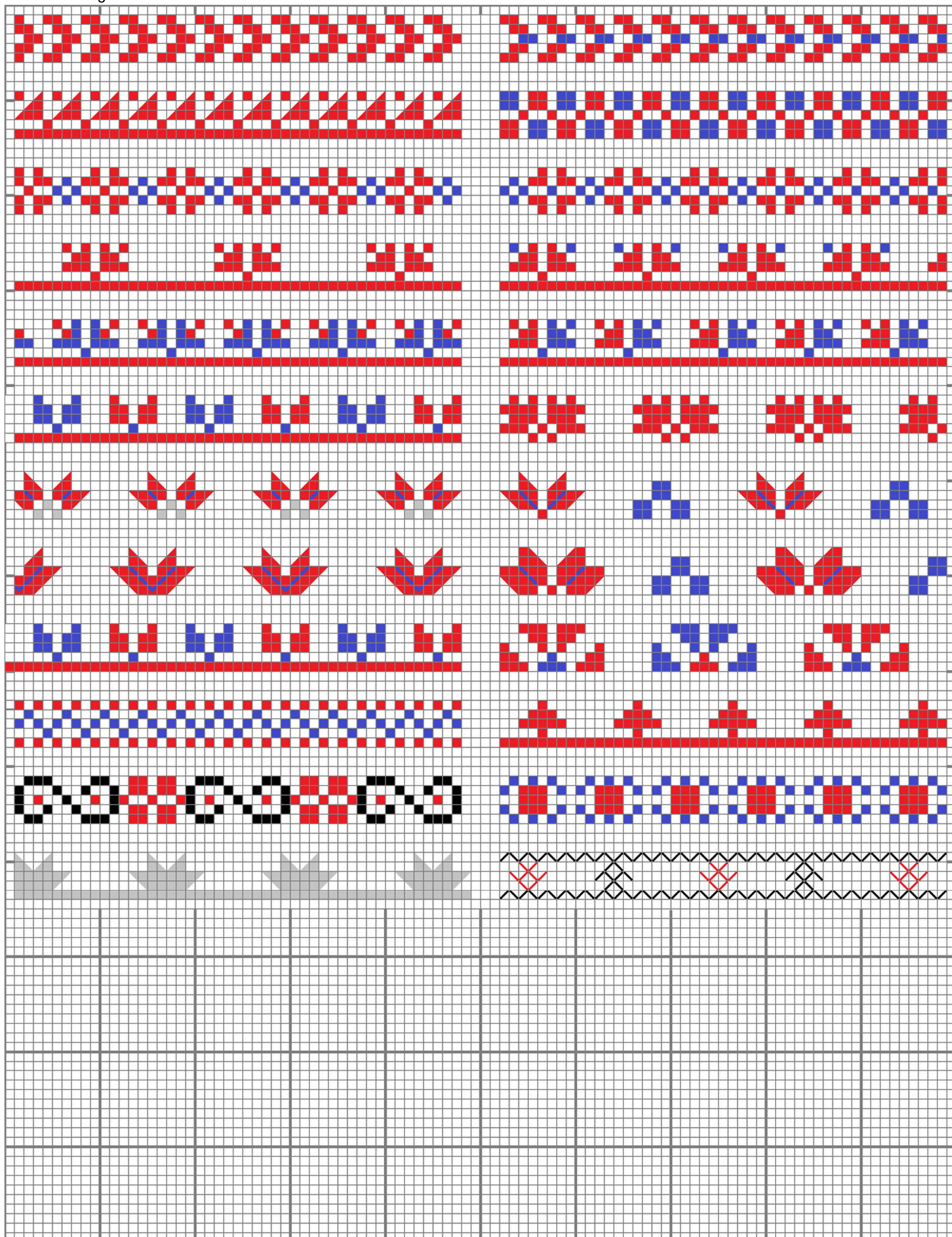


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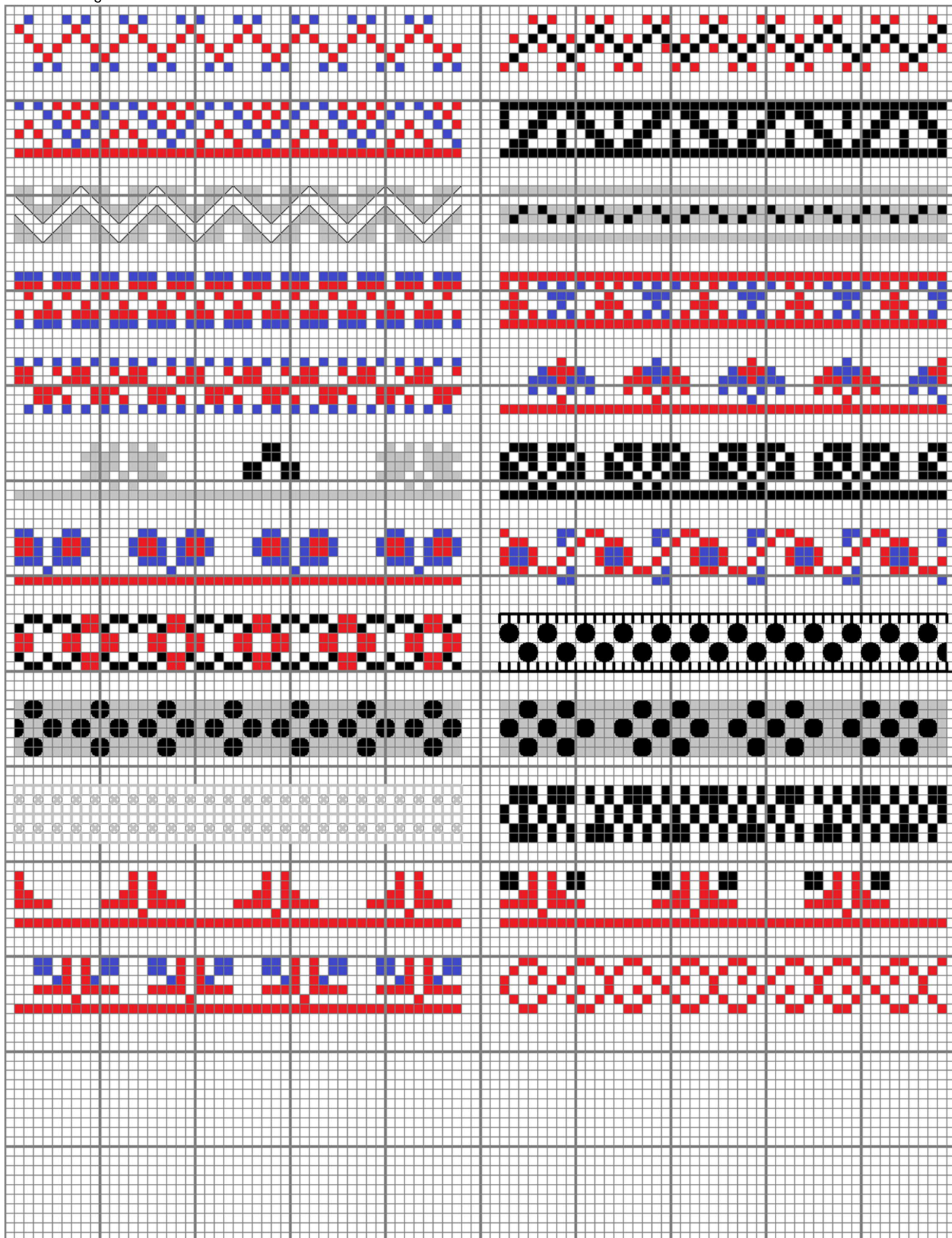


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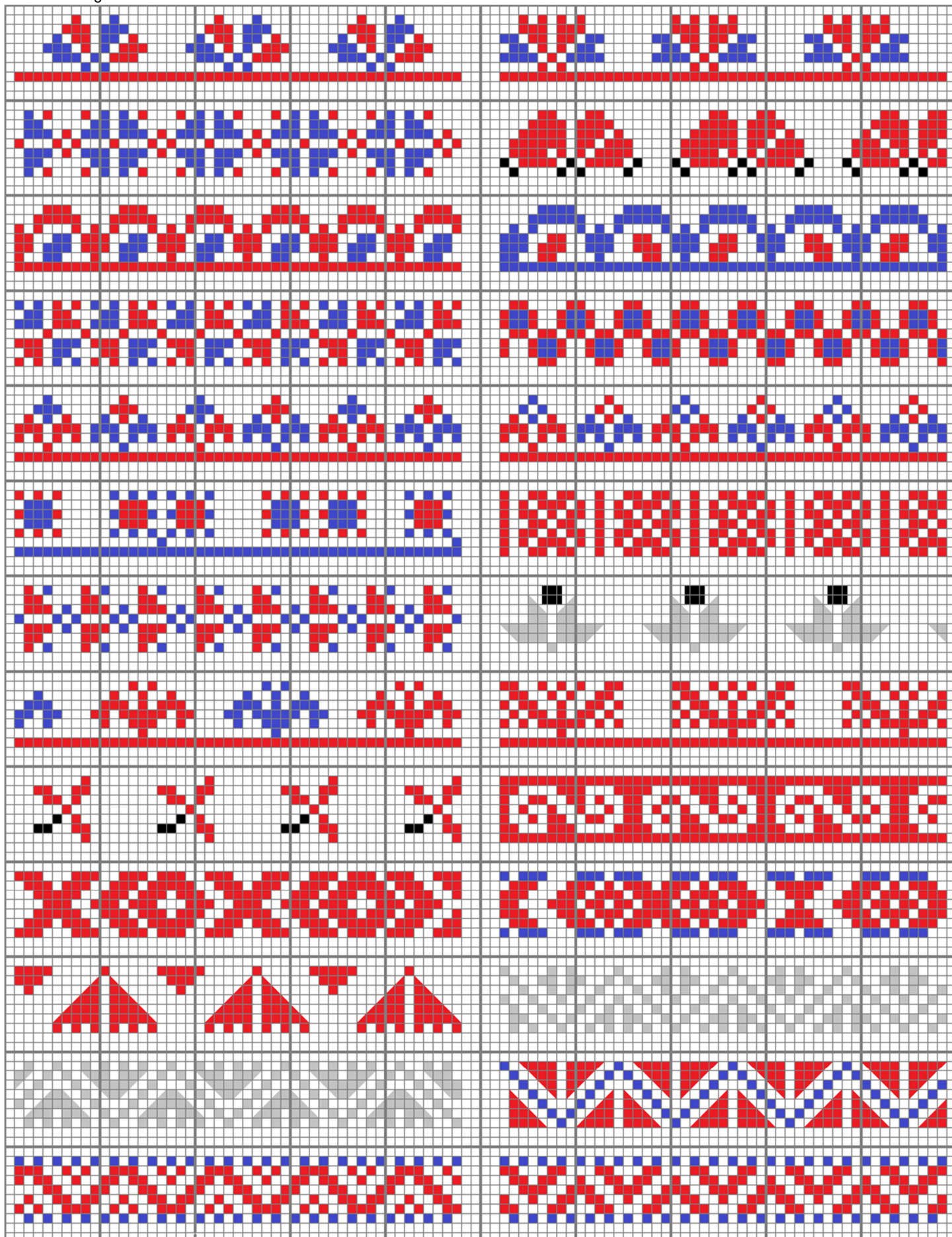


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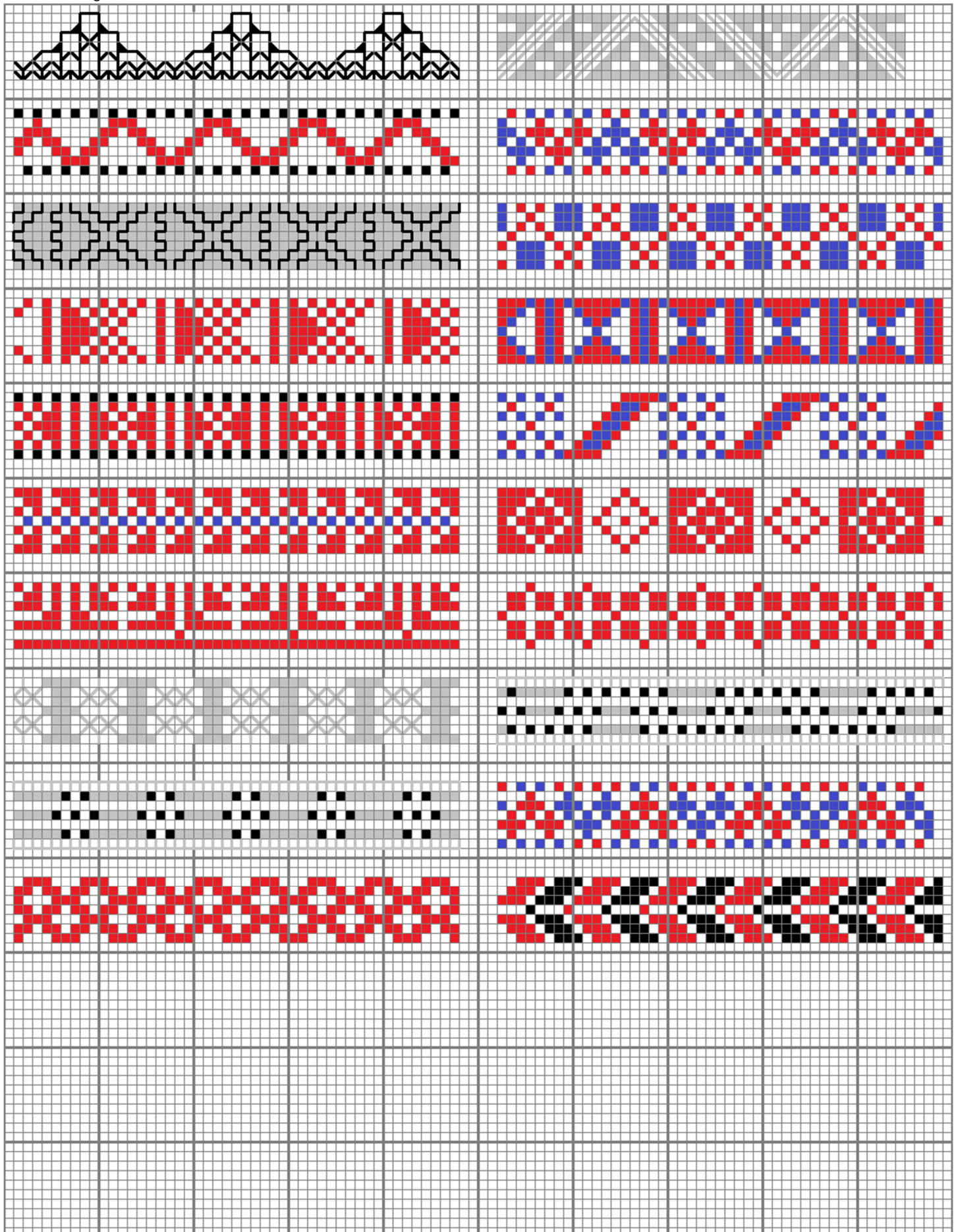


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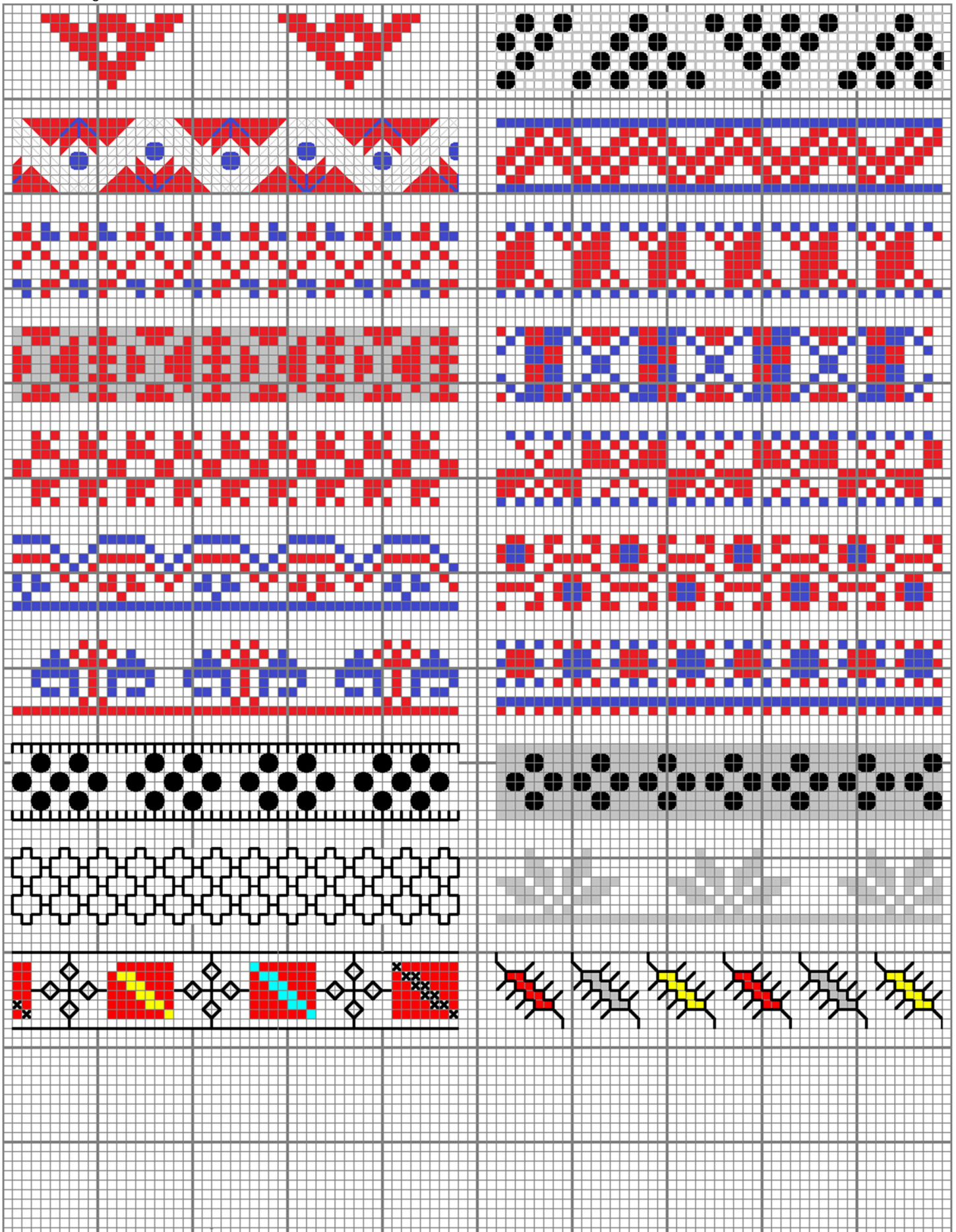


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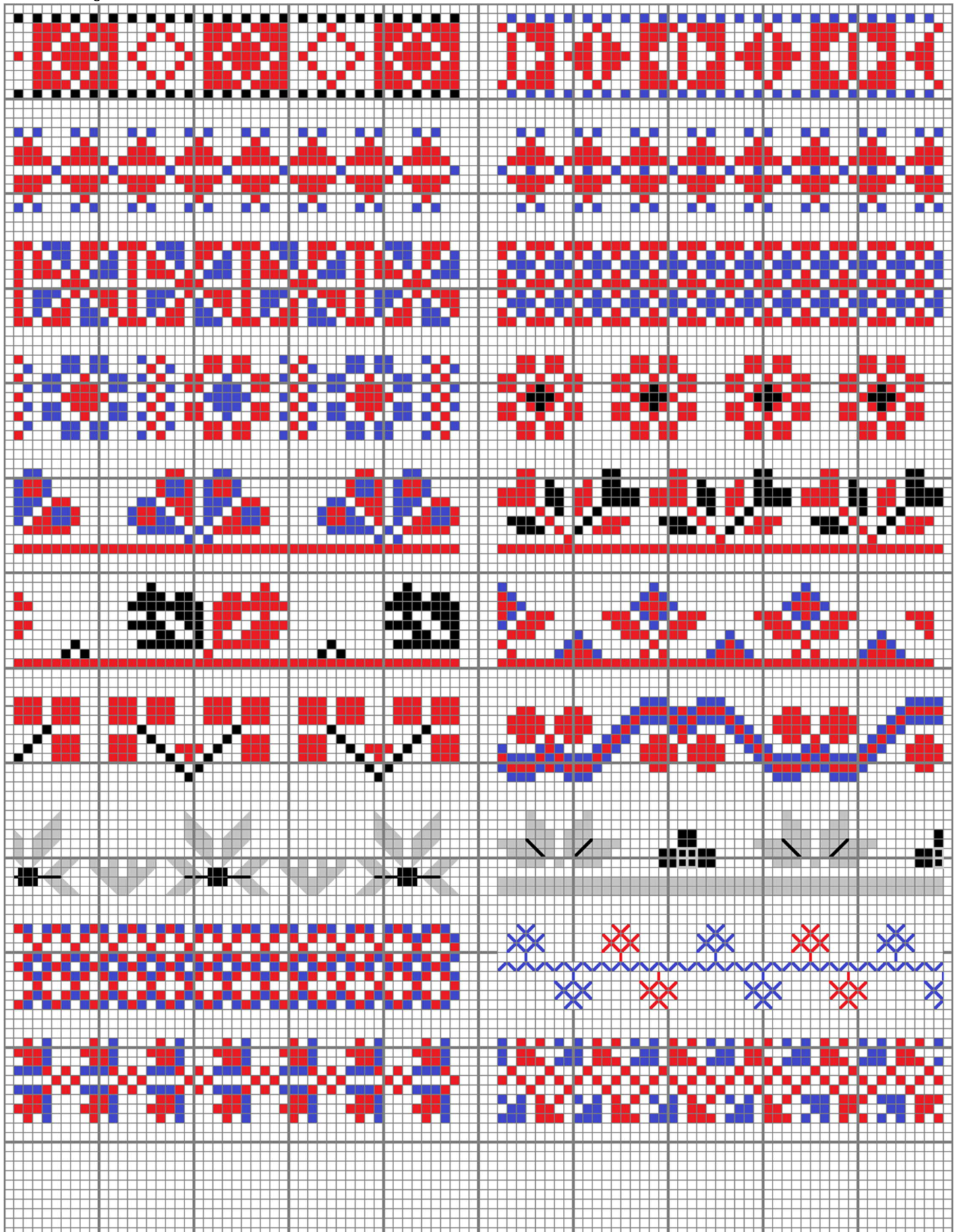


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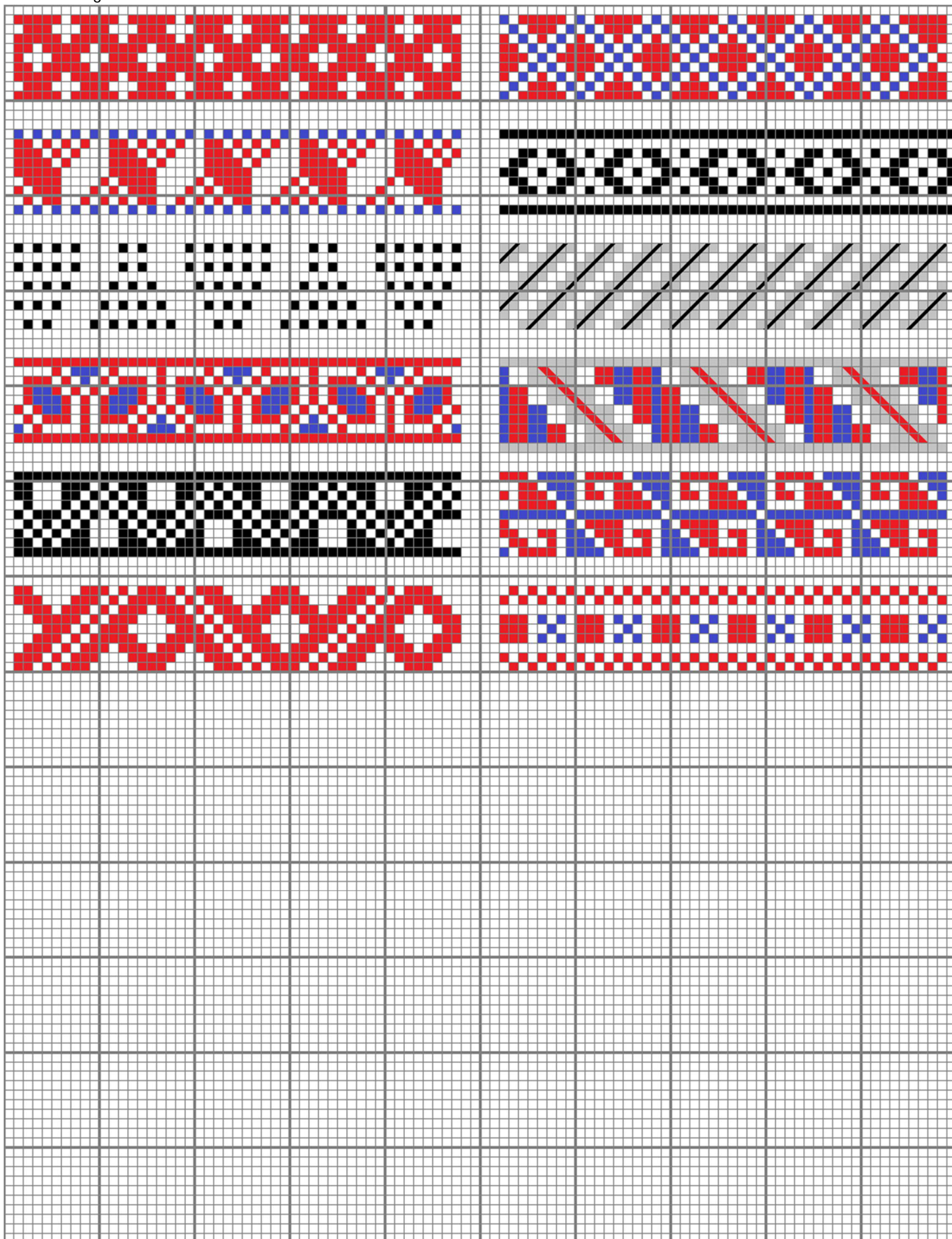


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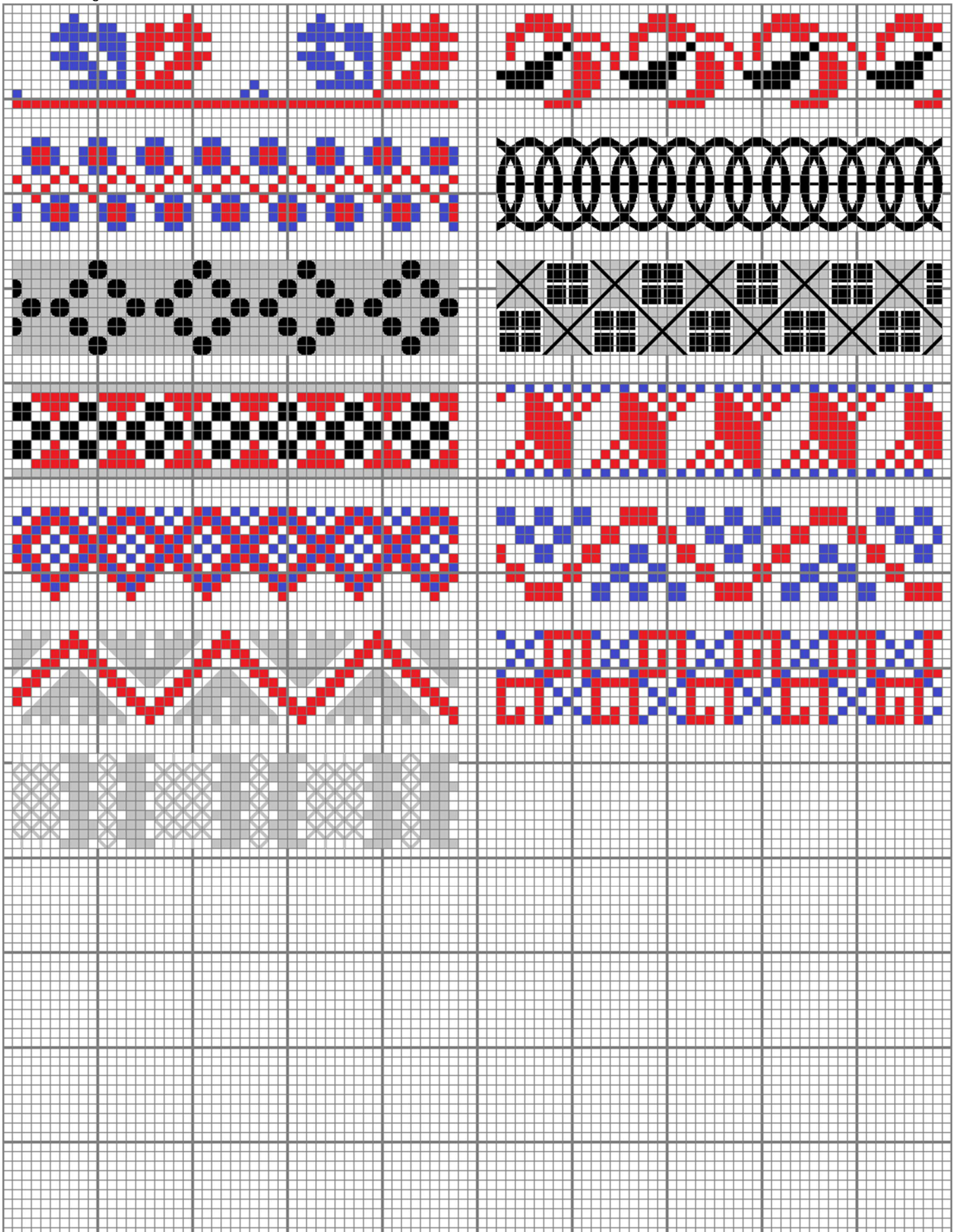


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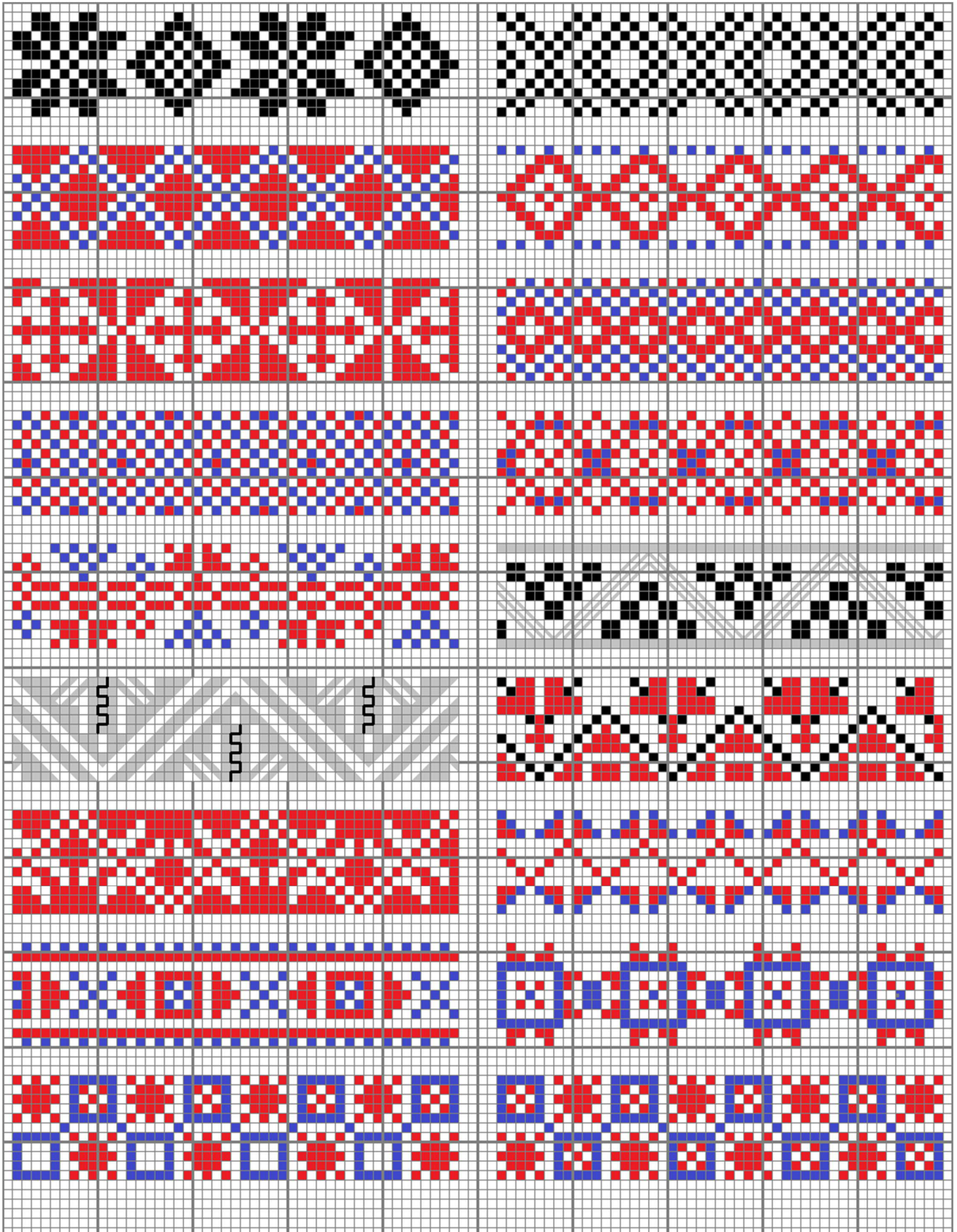


## Bands - Height 10





## Bands - Height 11



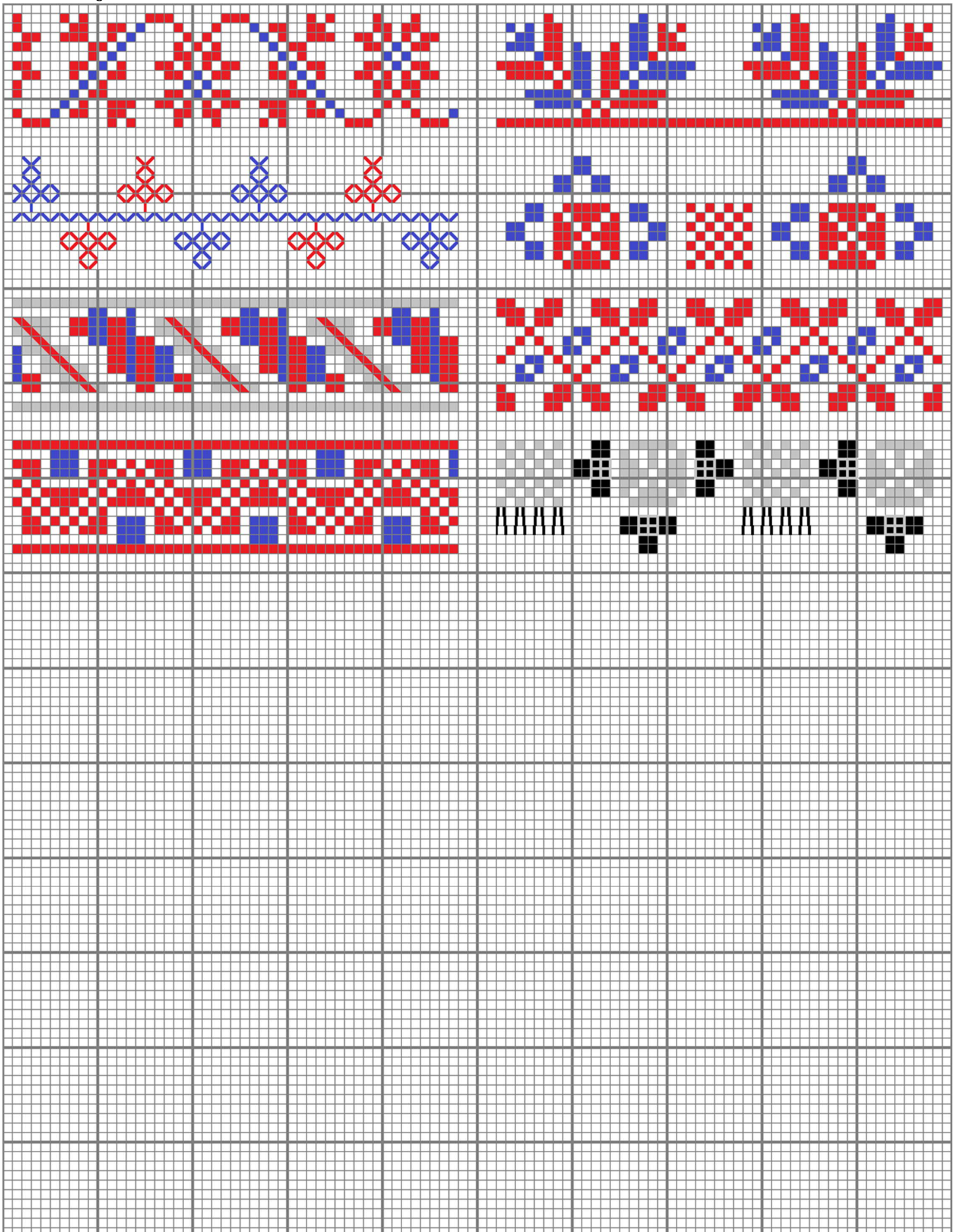


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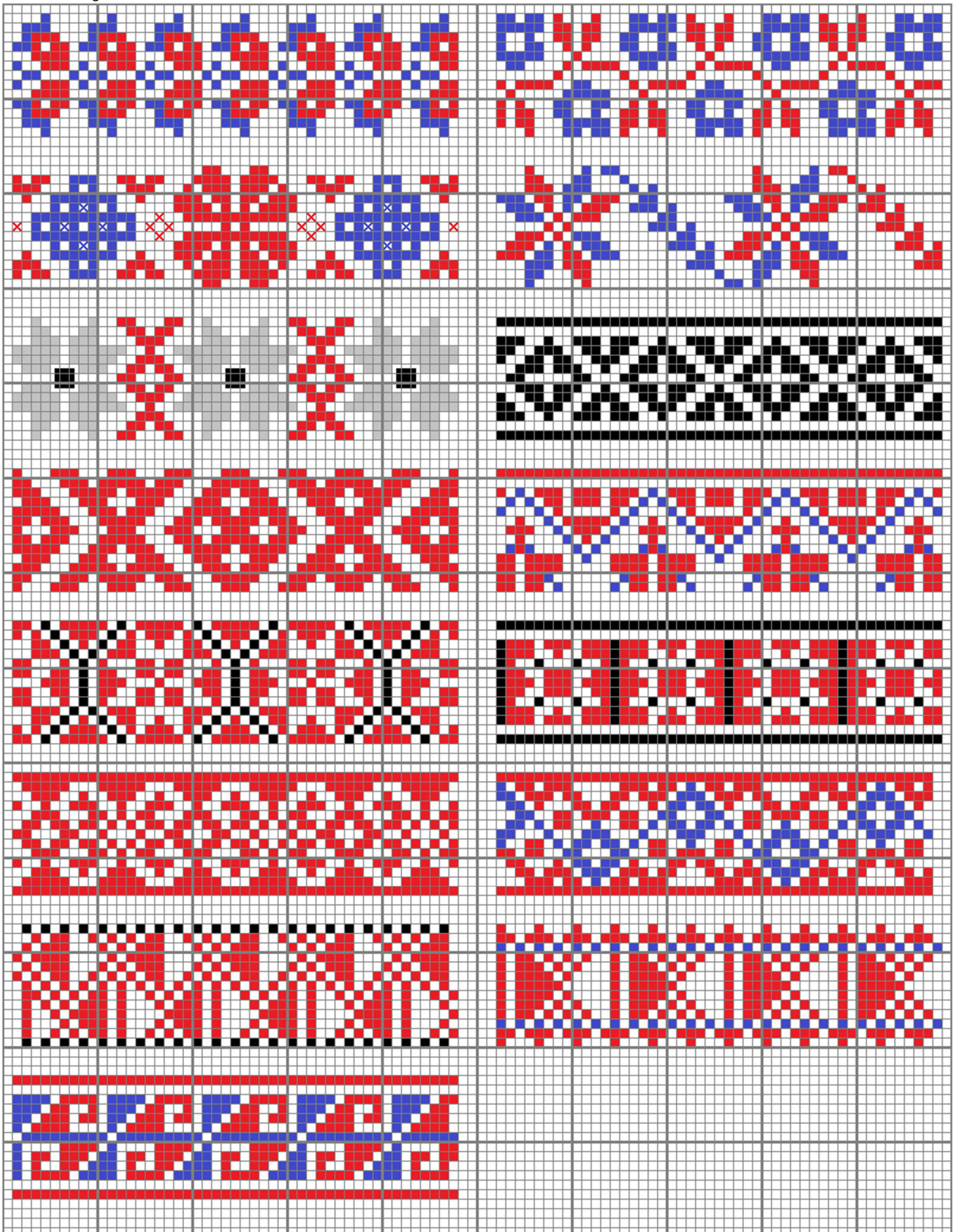


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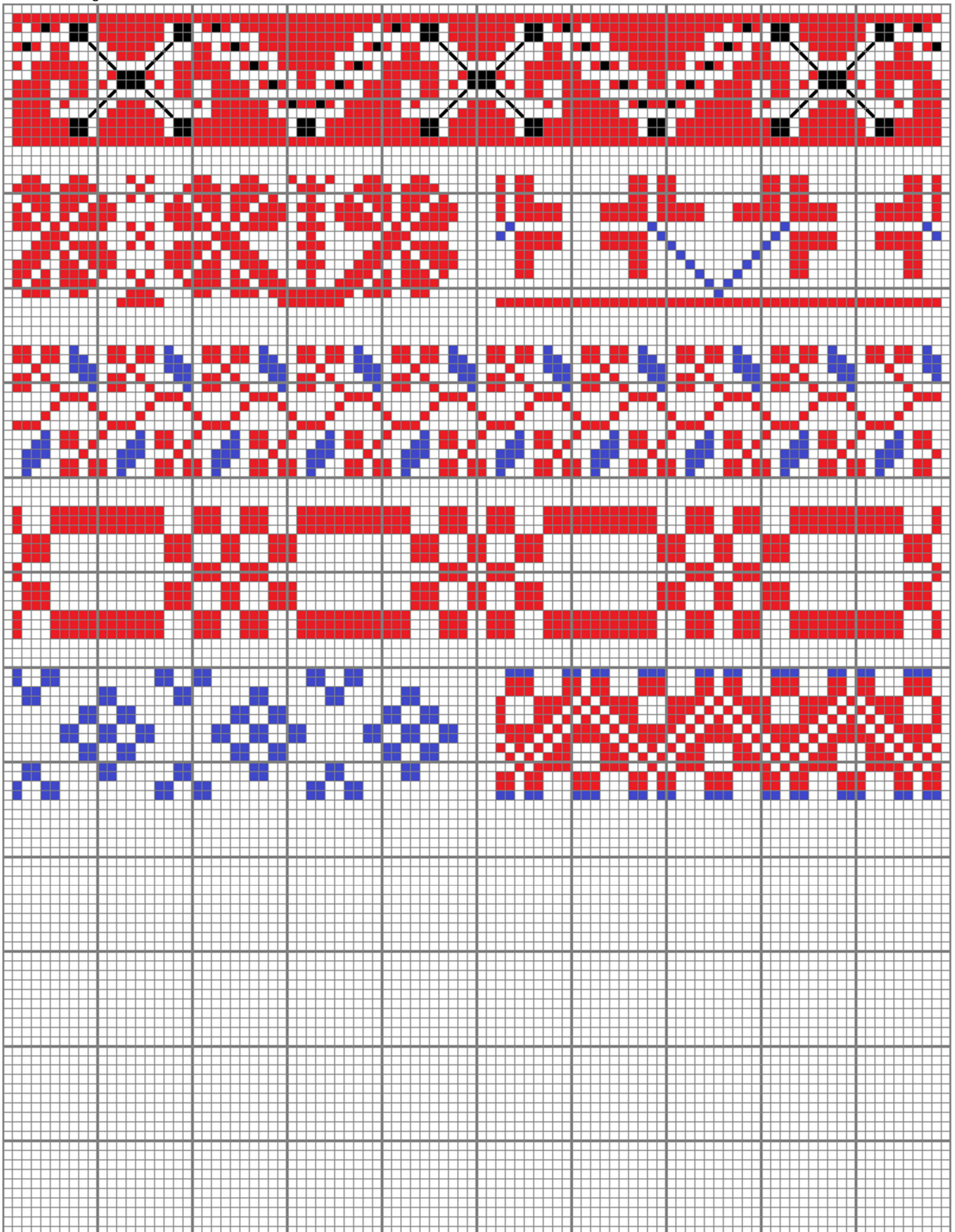


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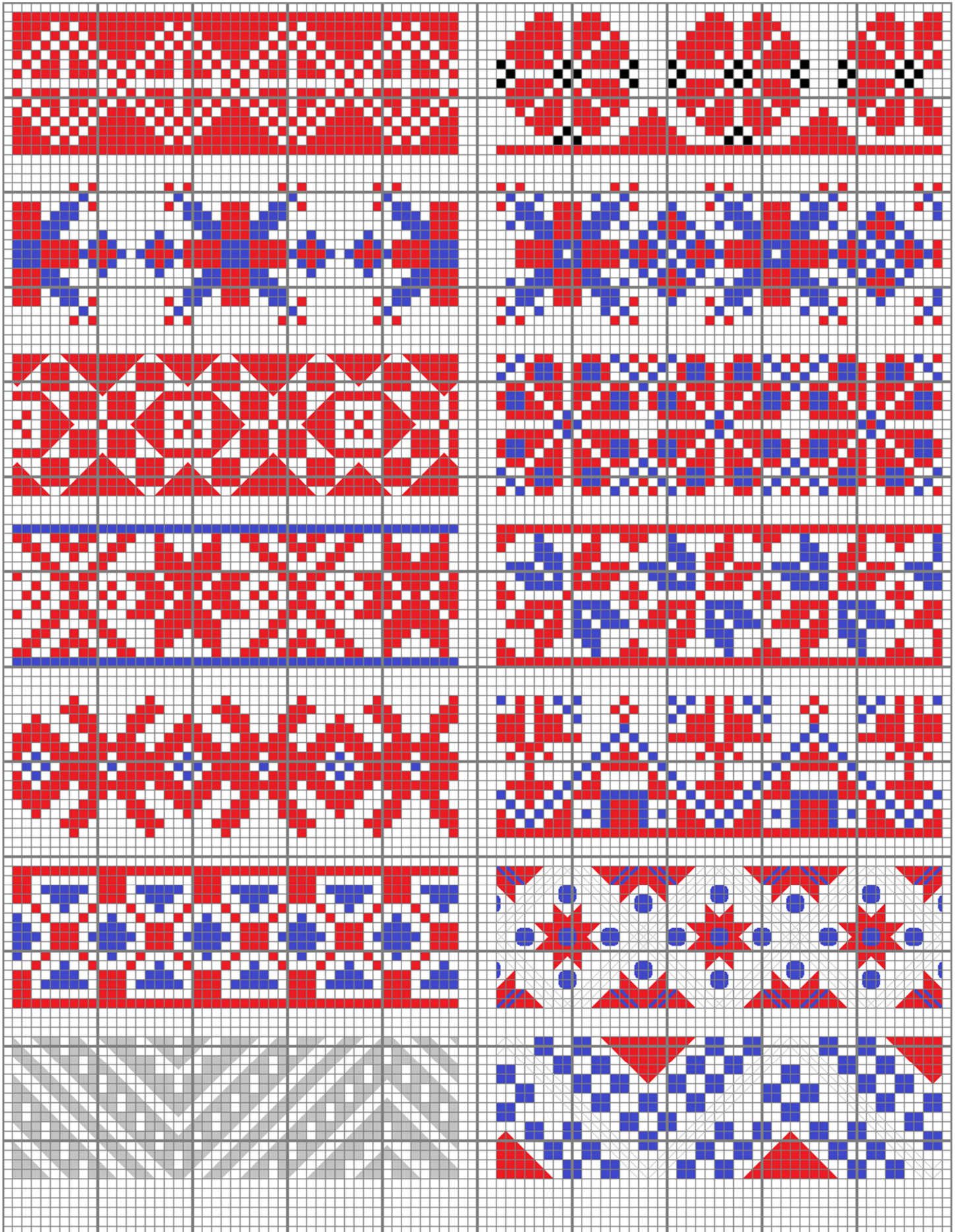


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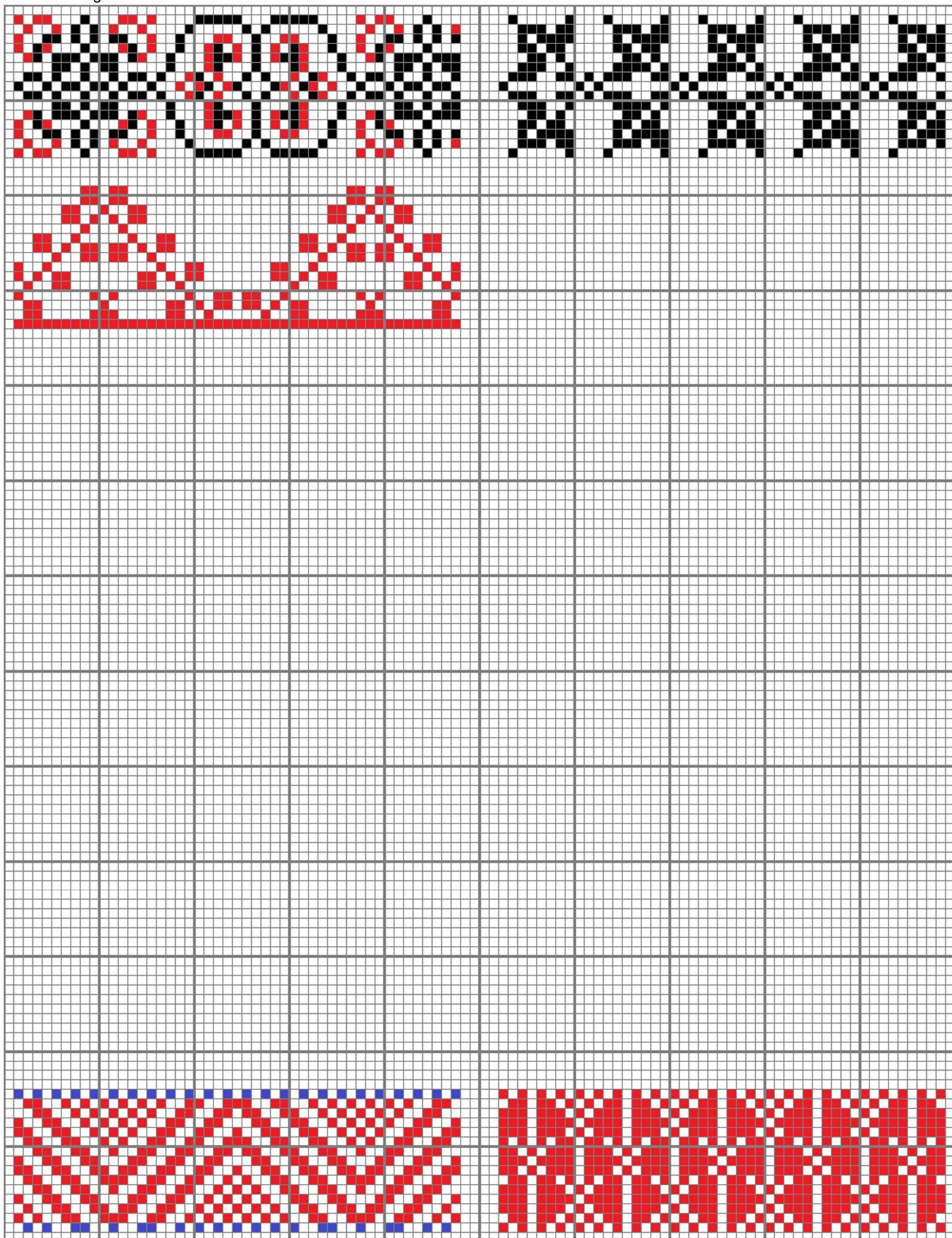


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## Bands - Height 15



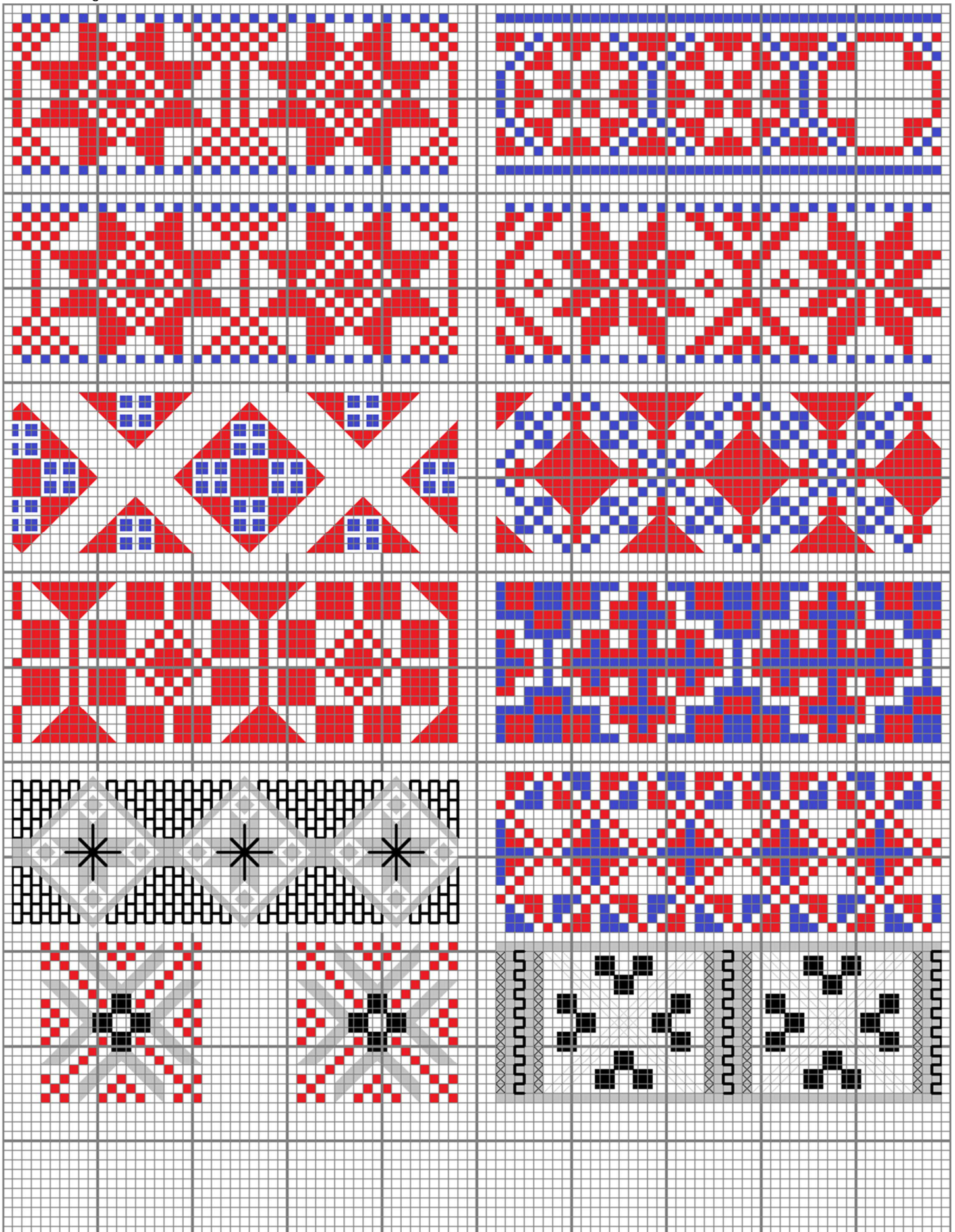


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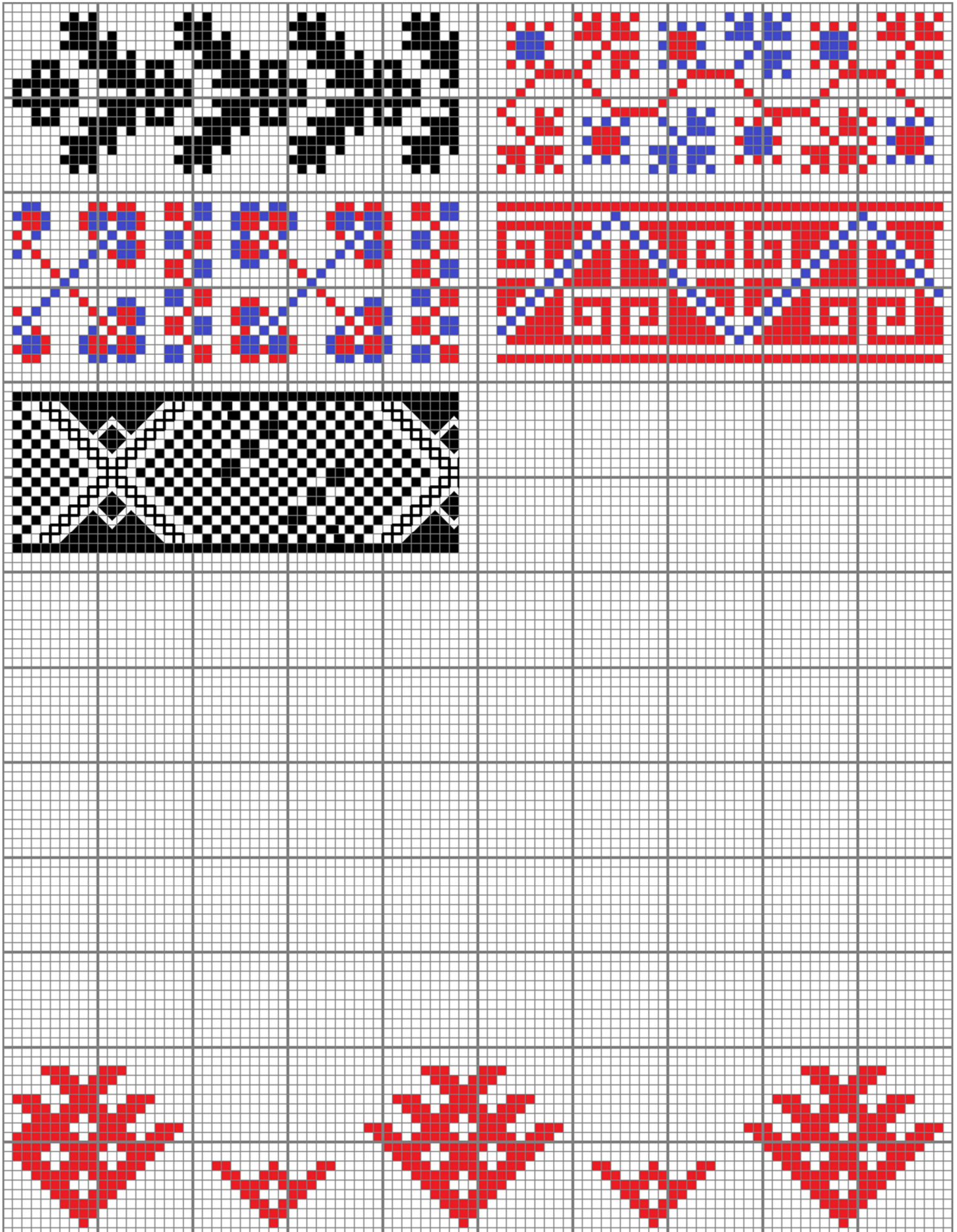


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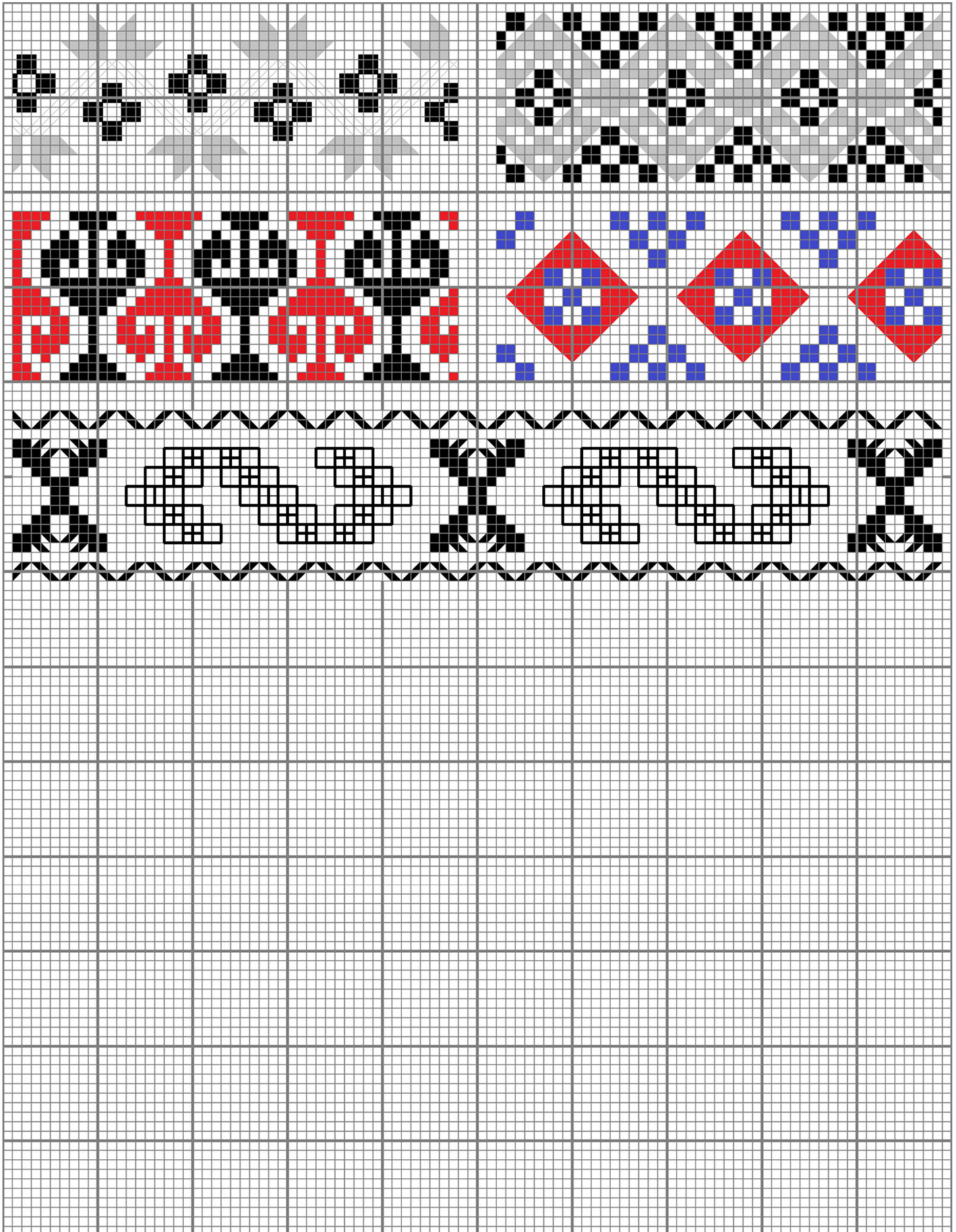




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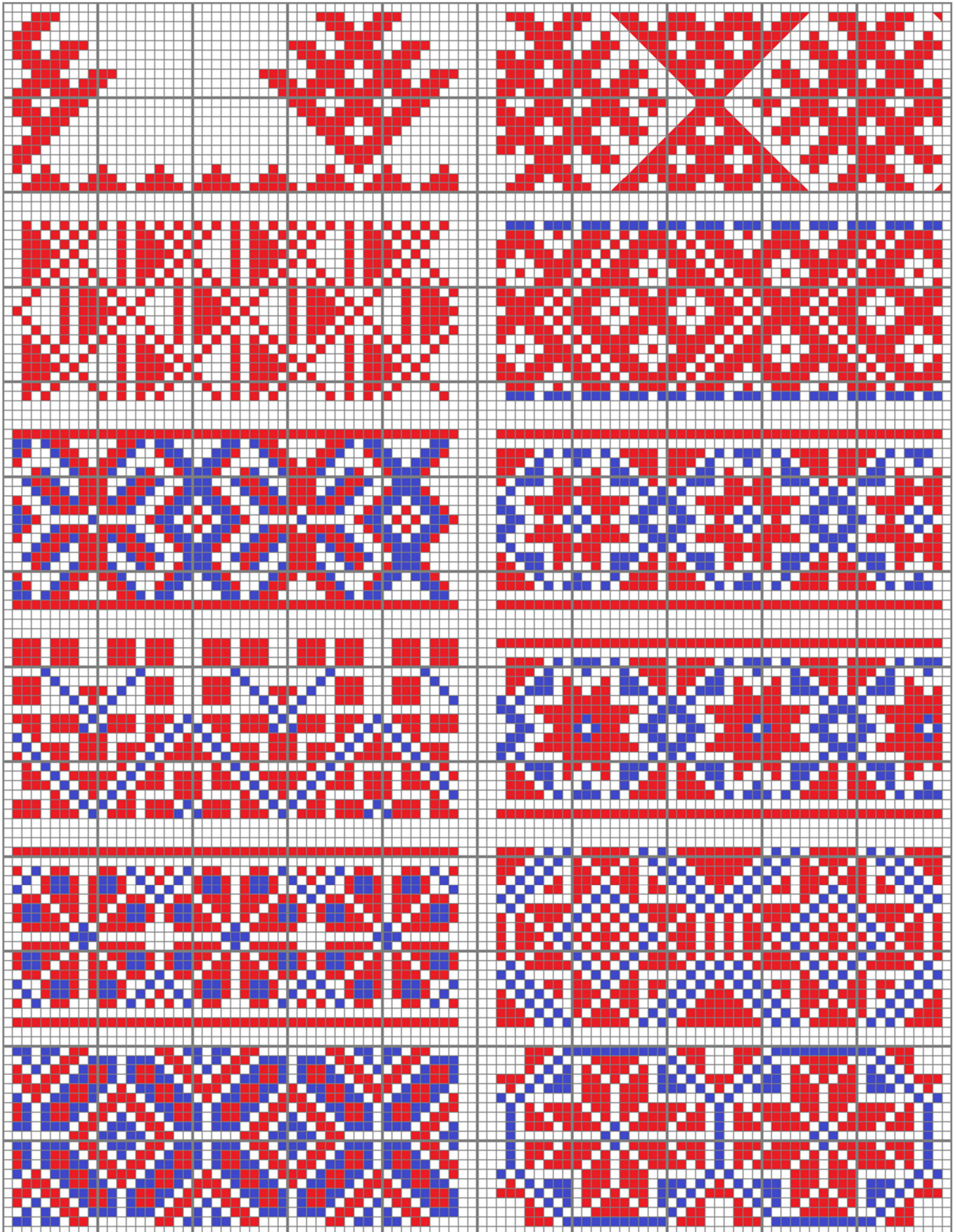


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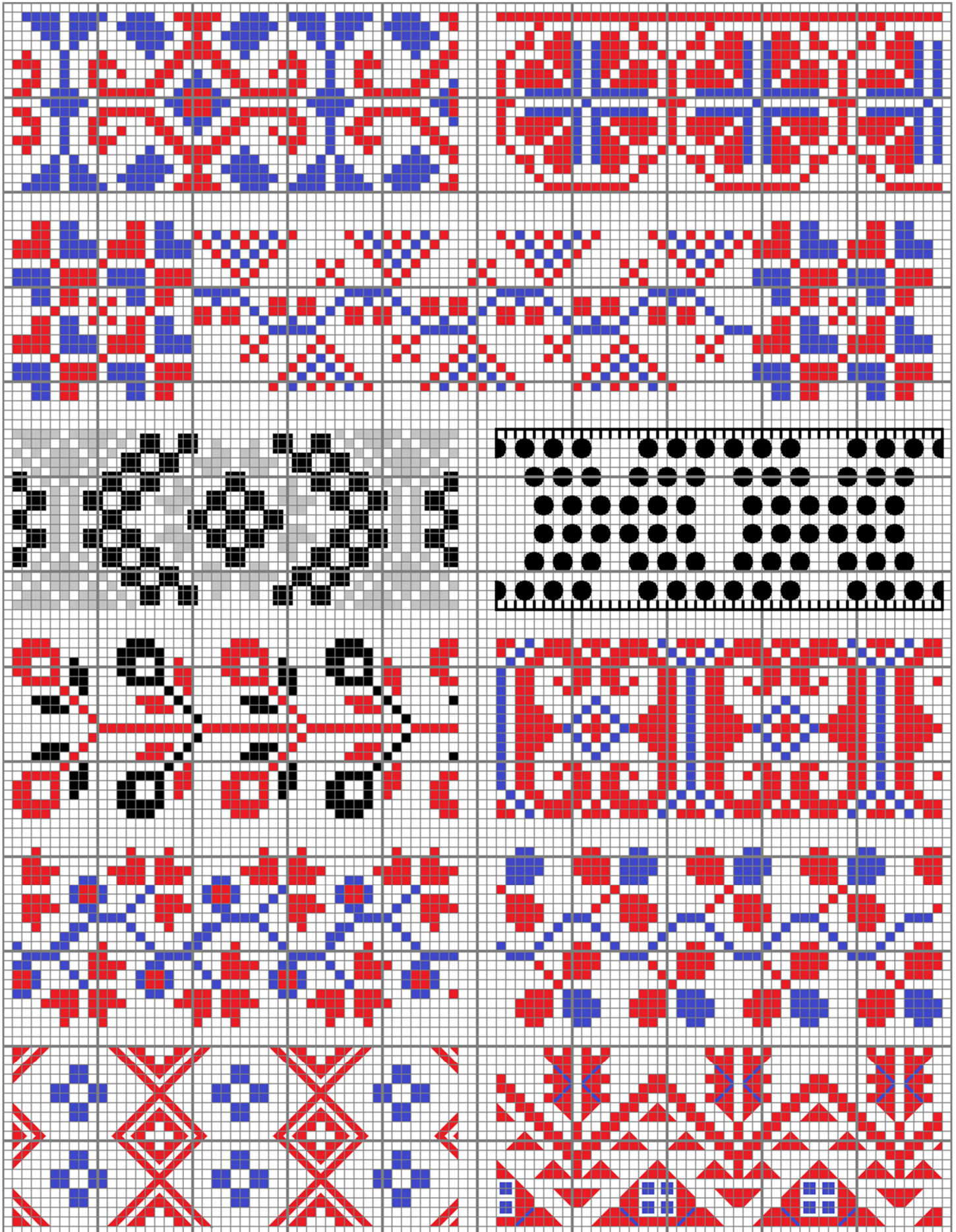


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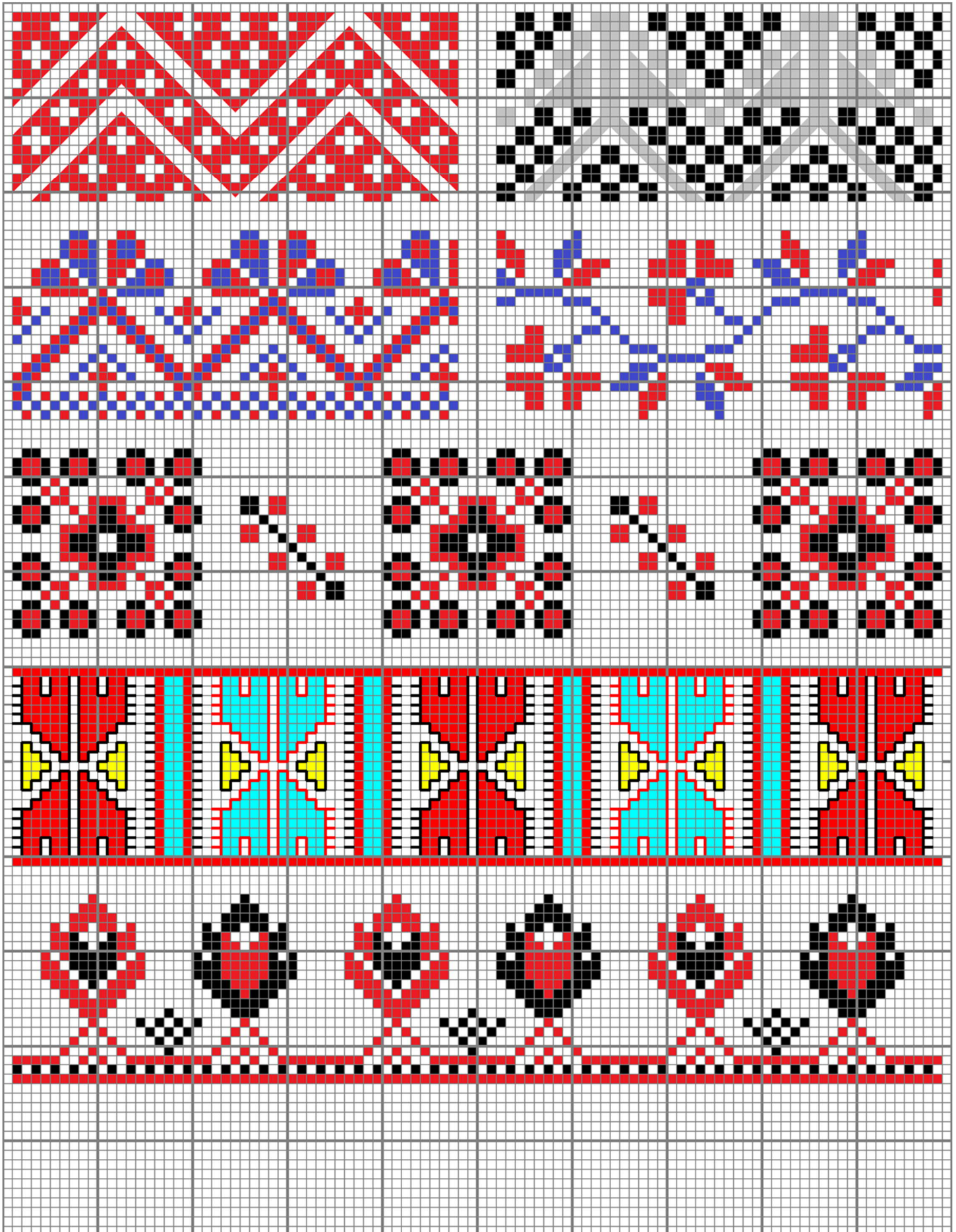


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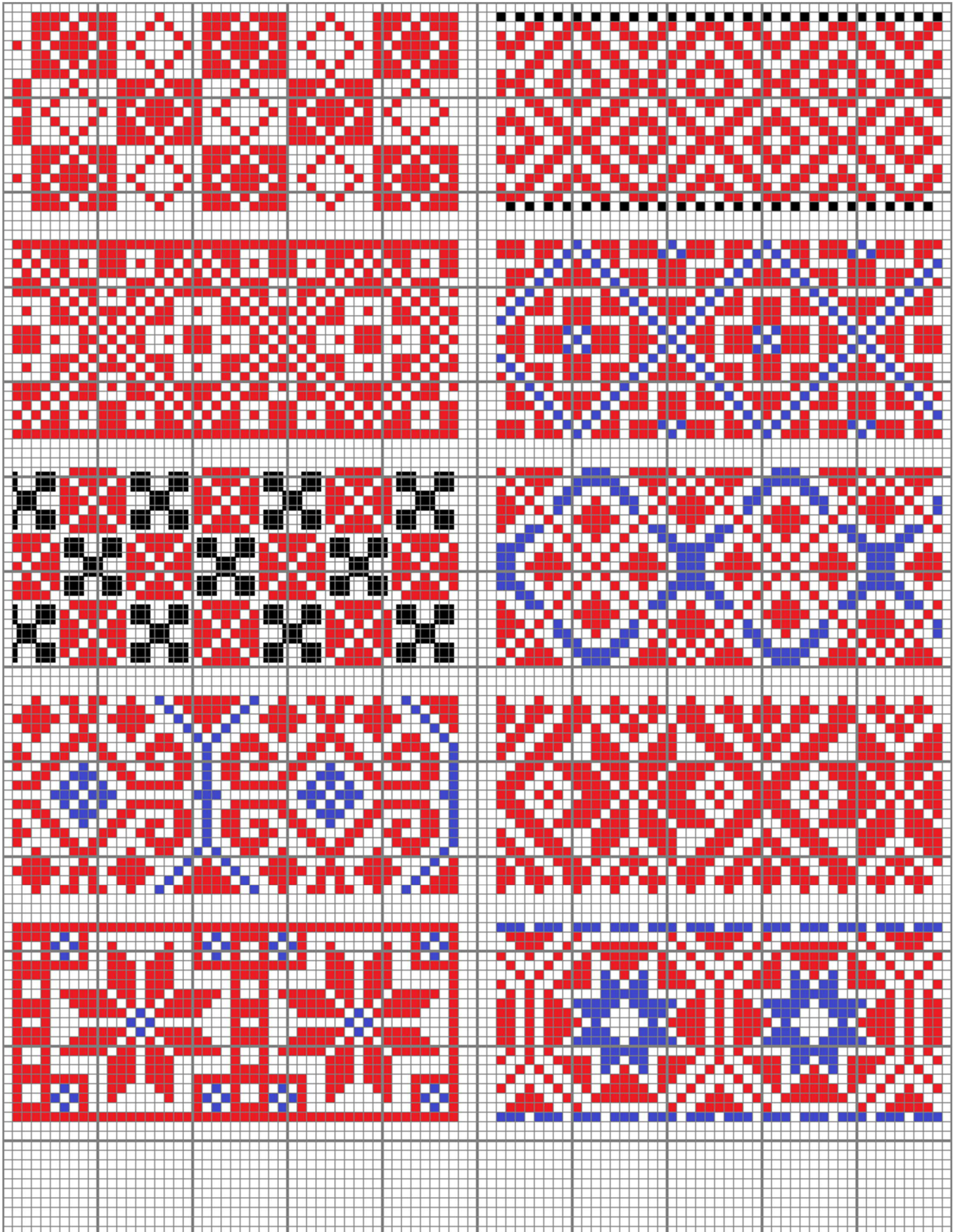


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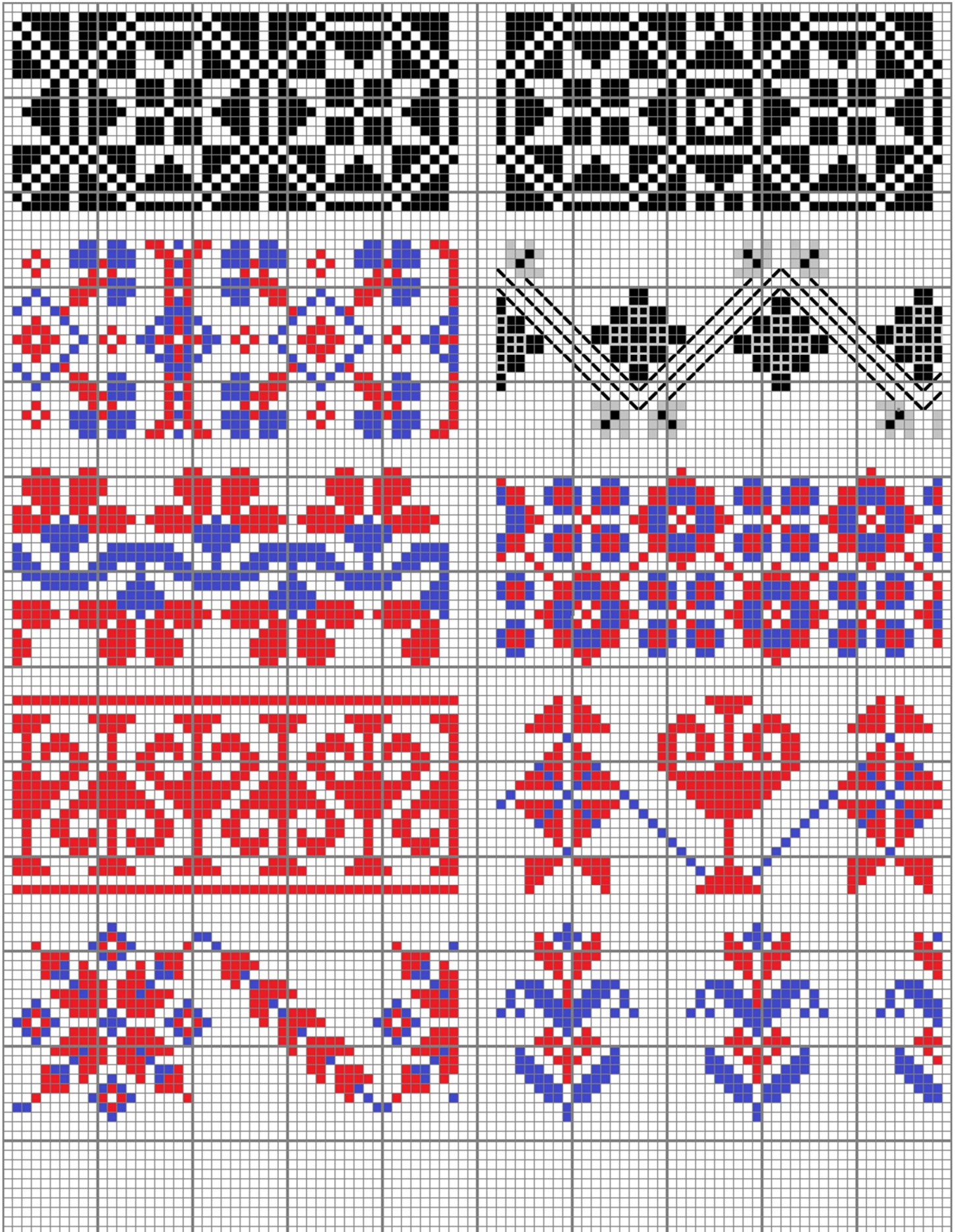


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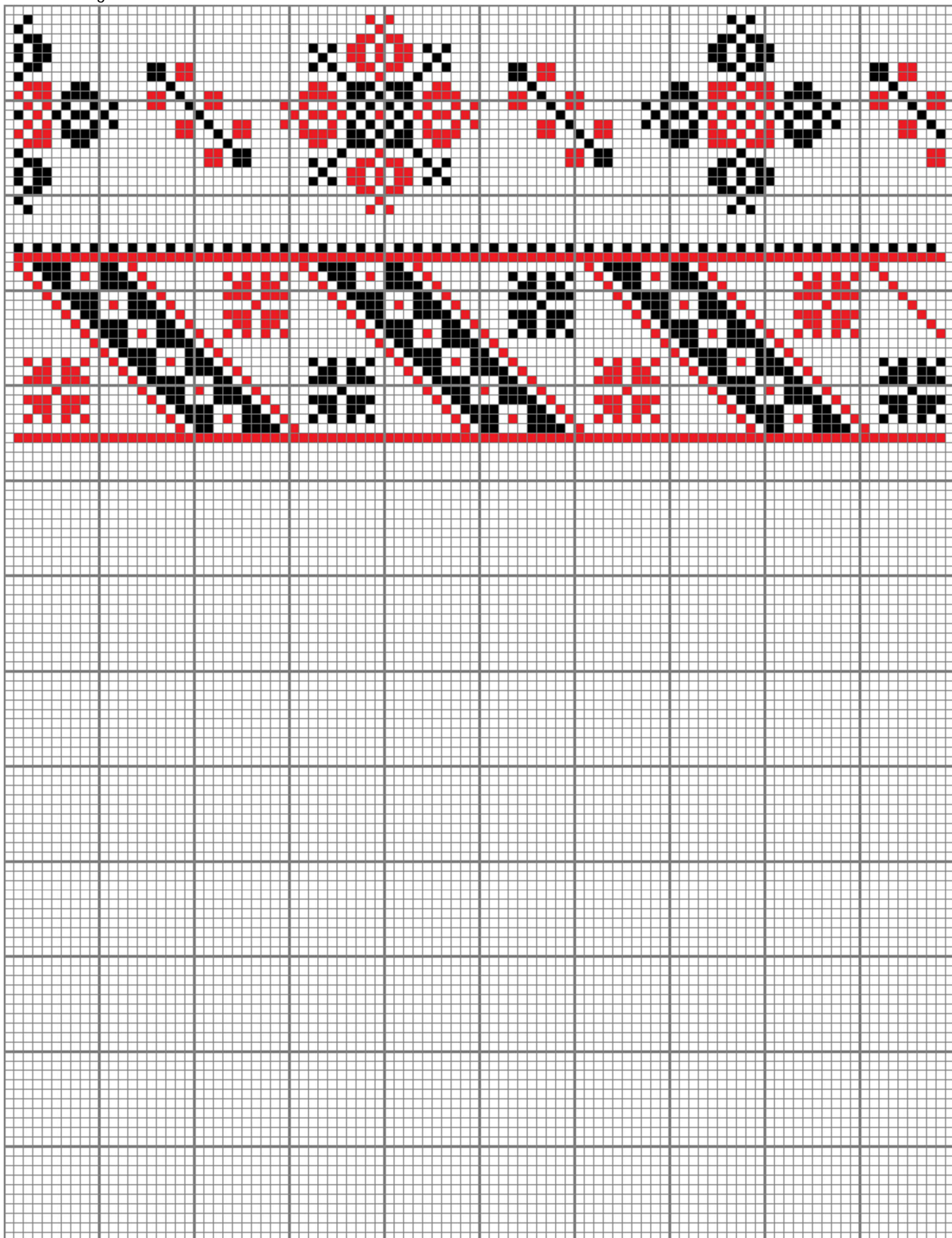




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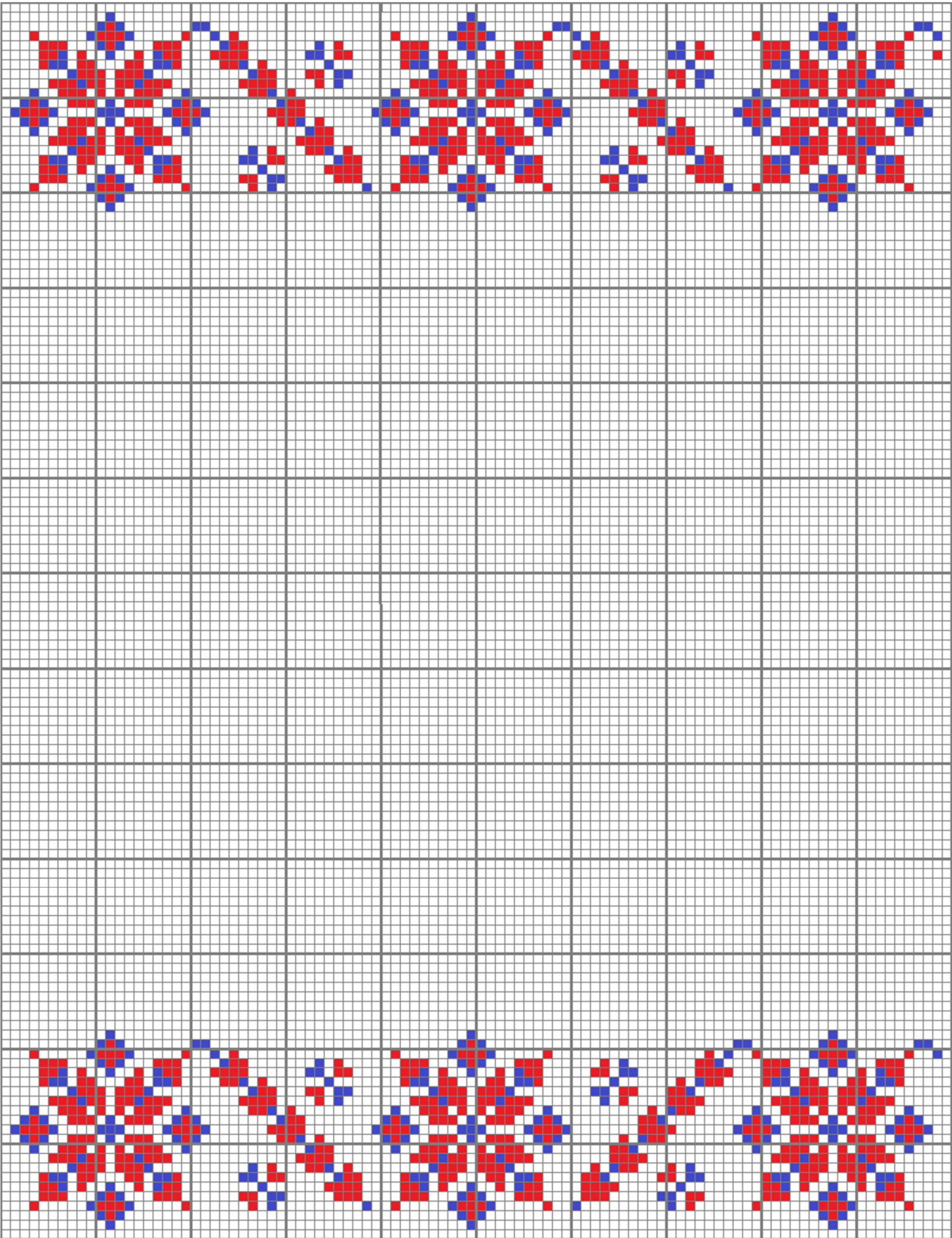


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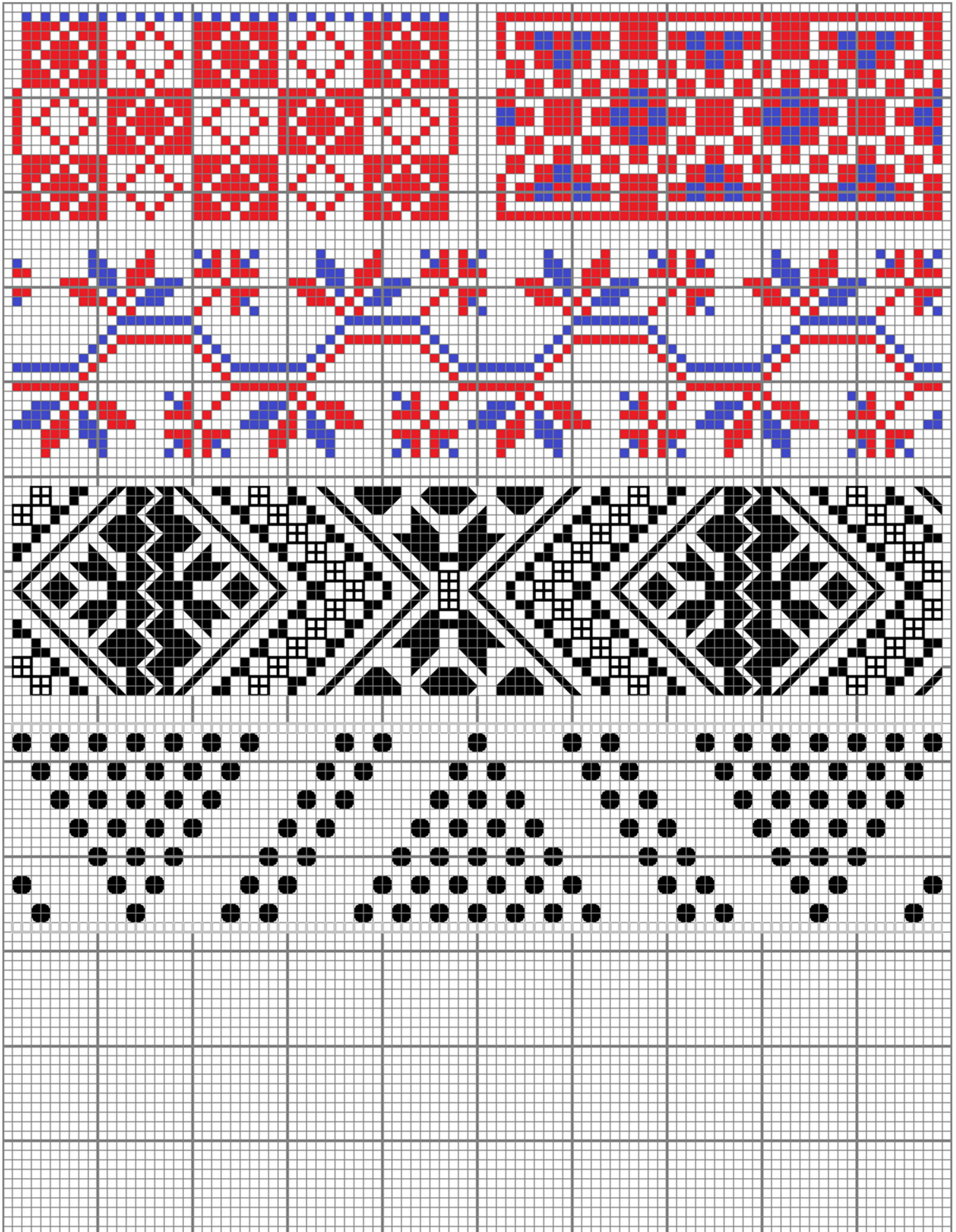


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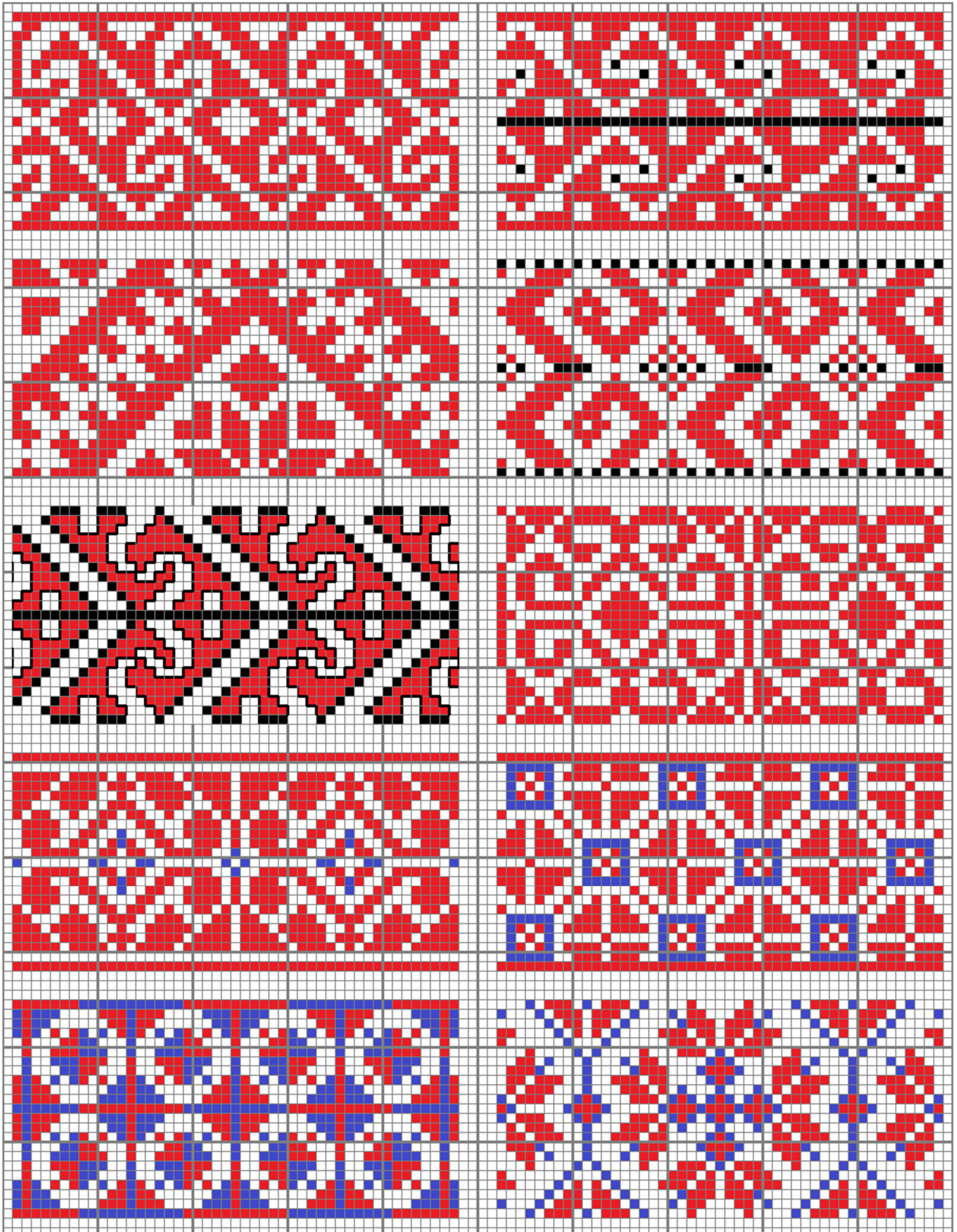


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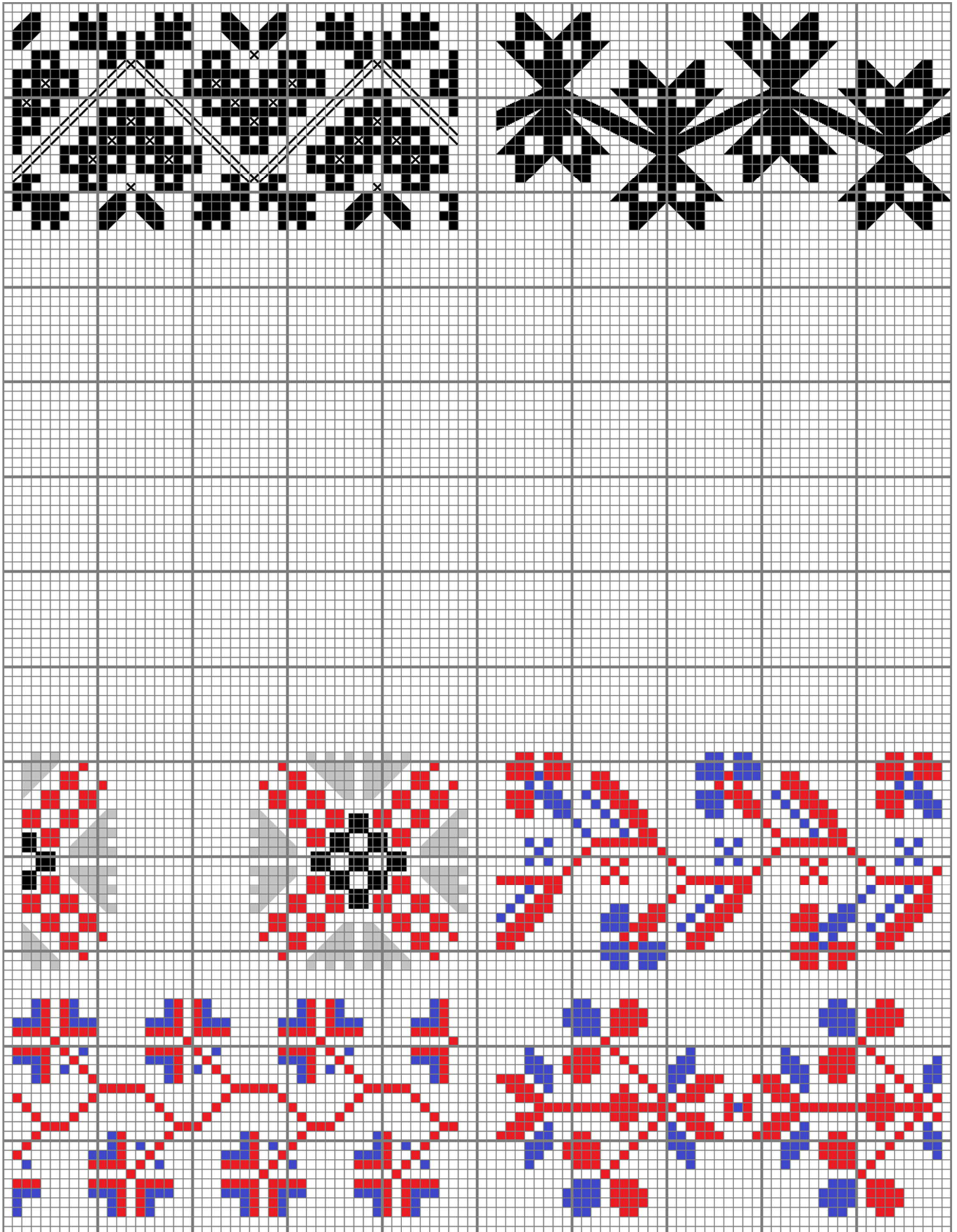


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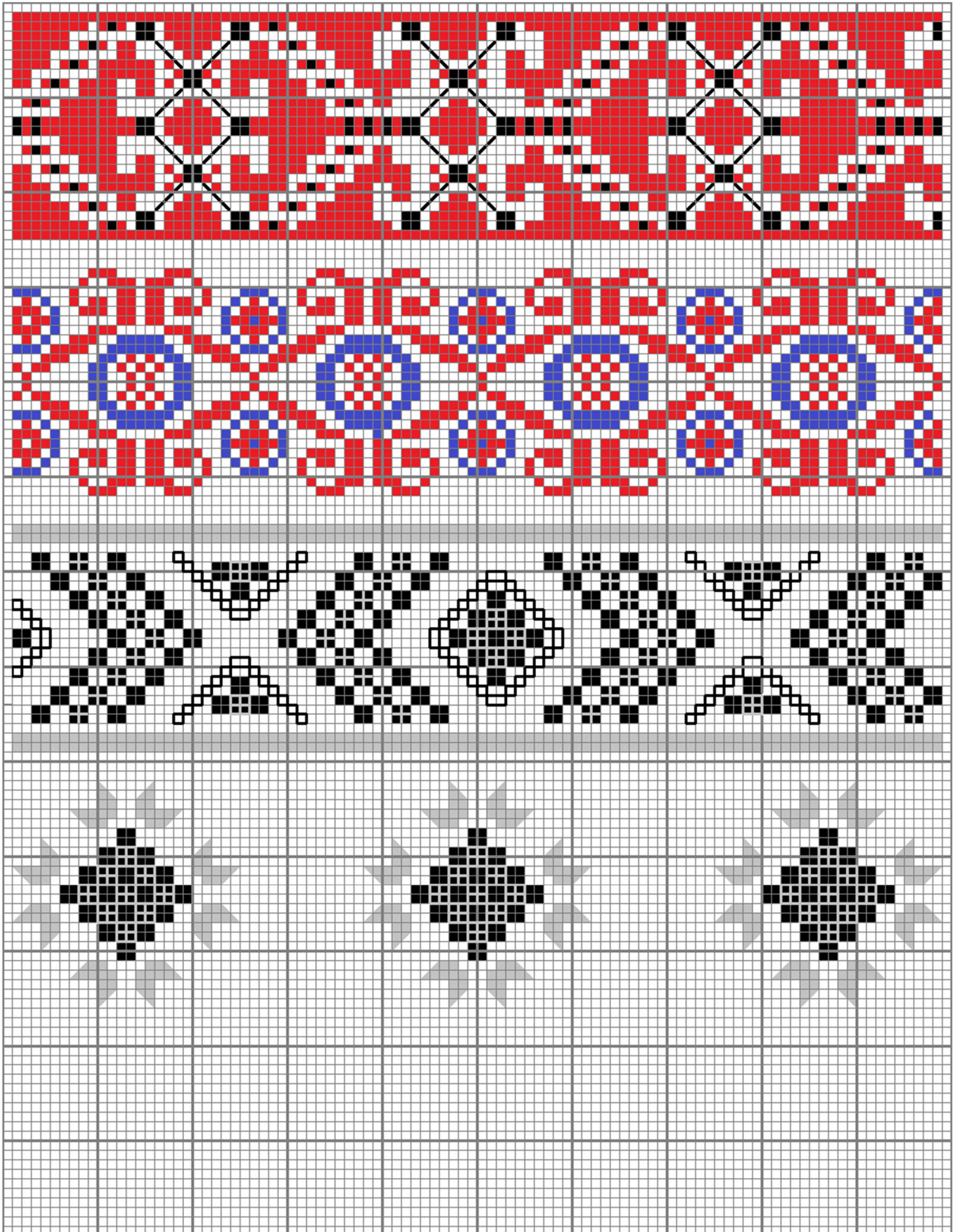


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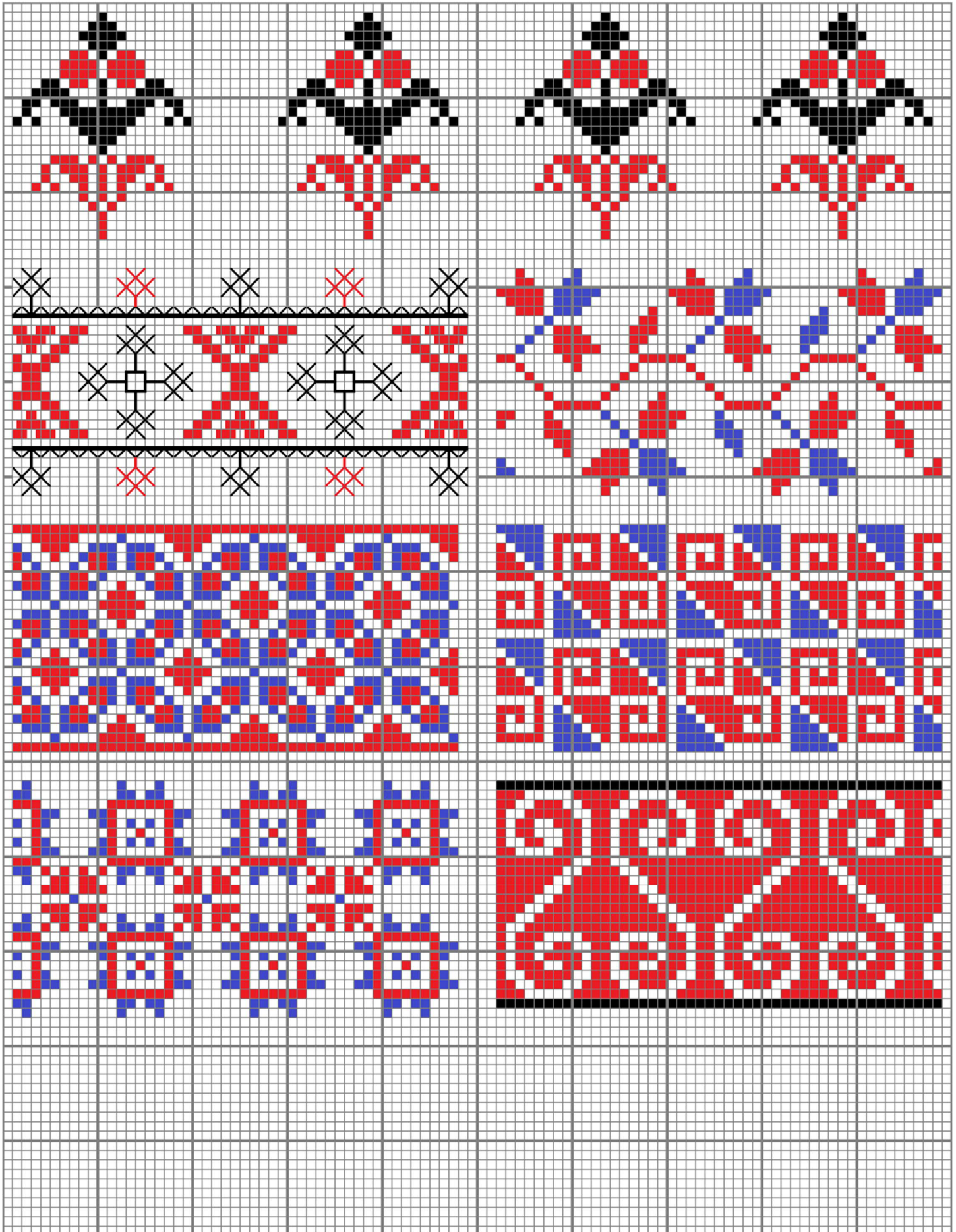


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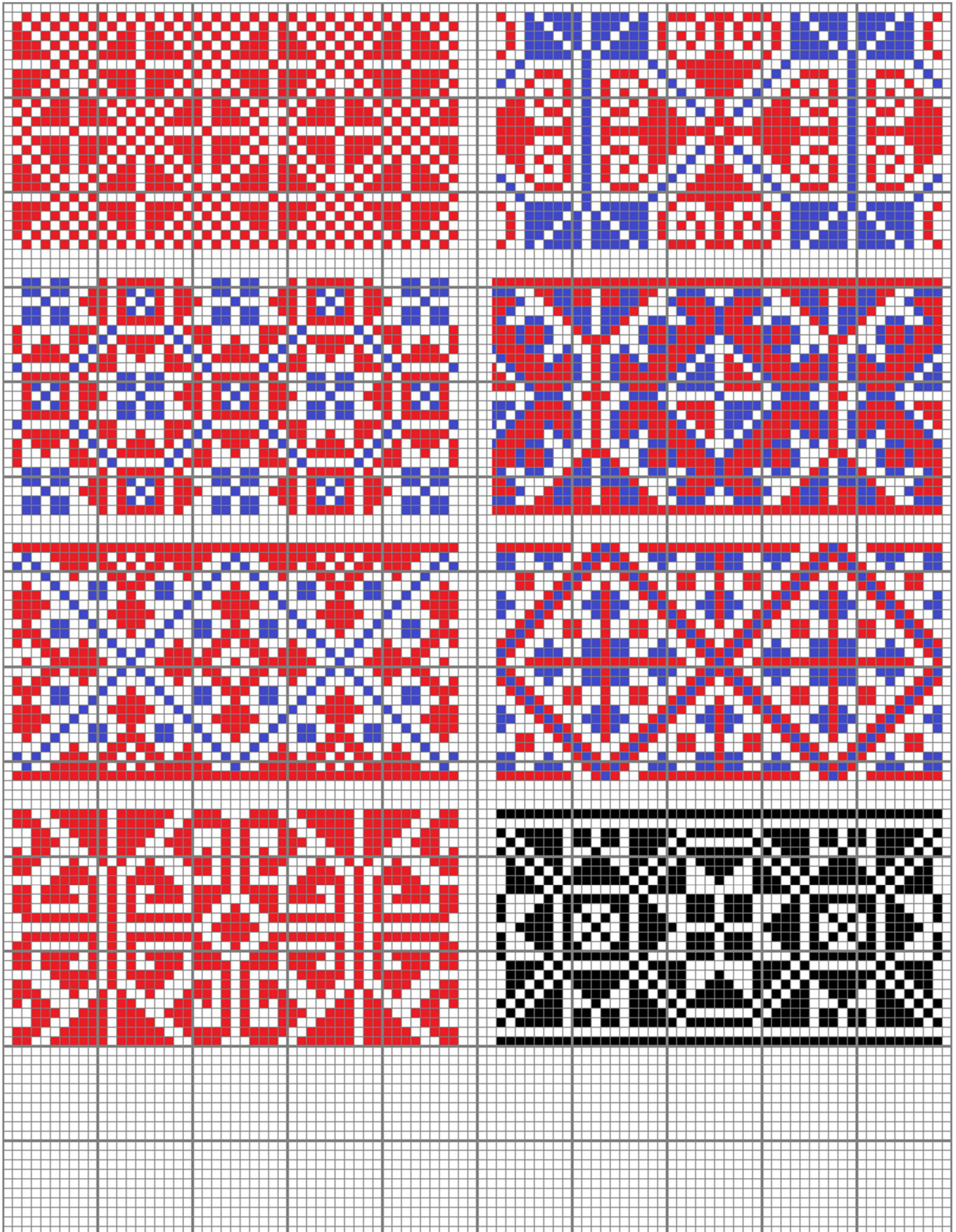


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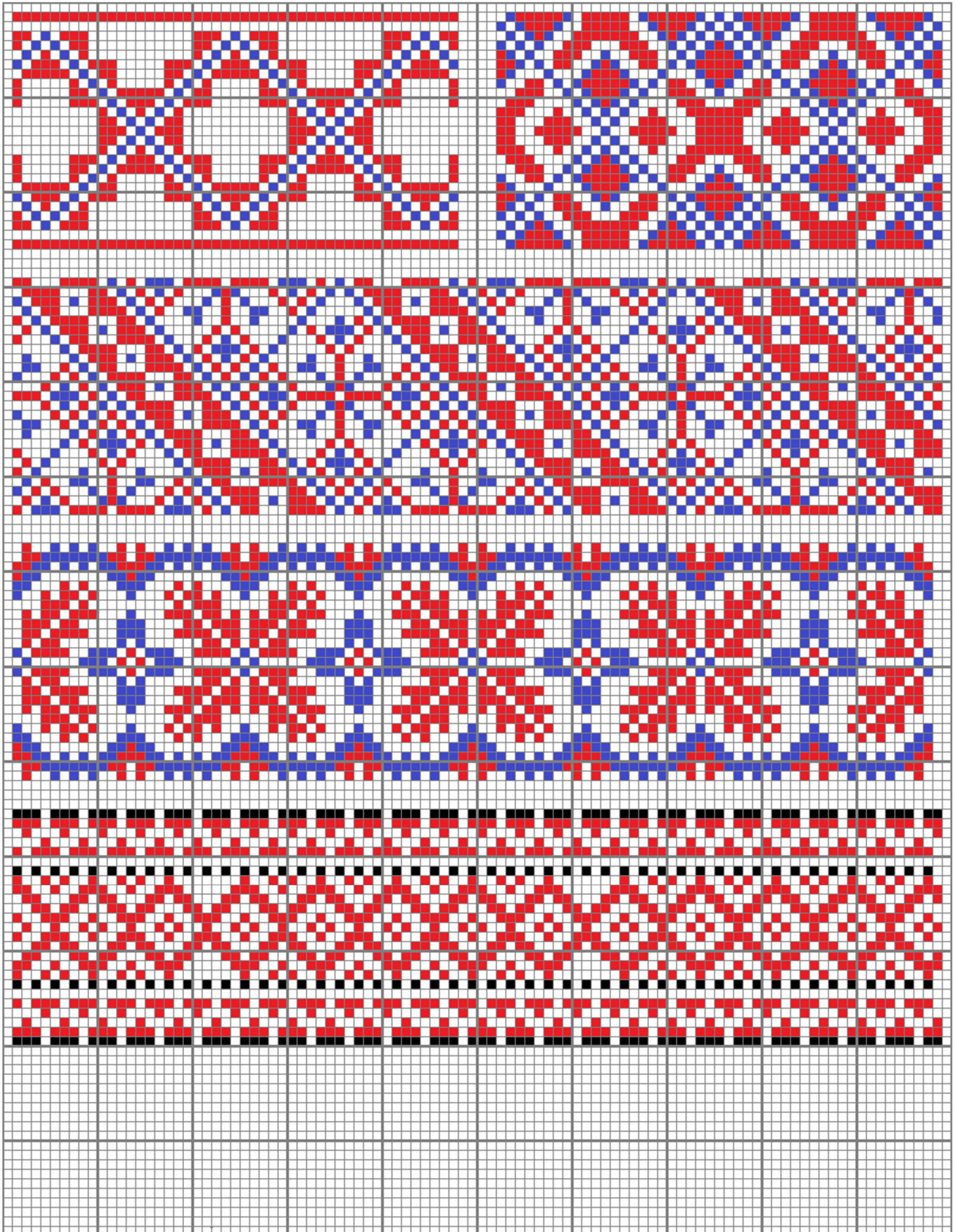


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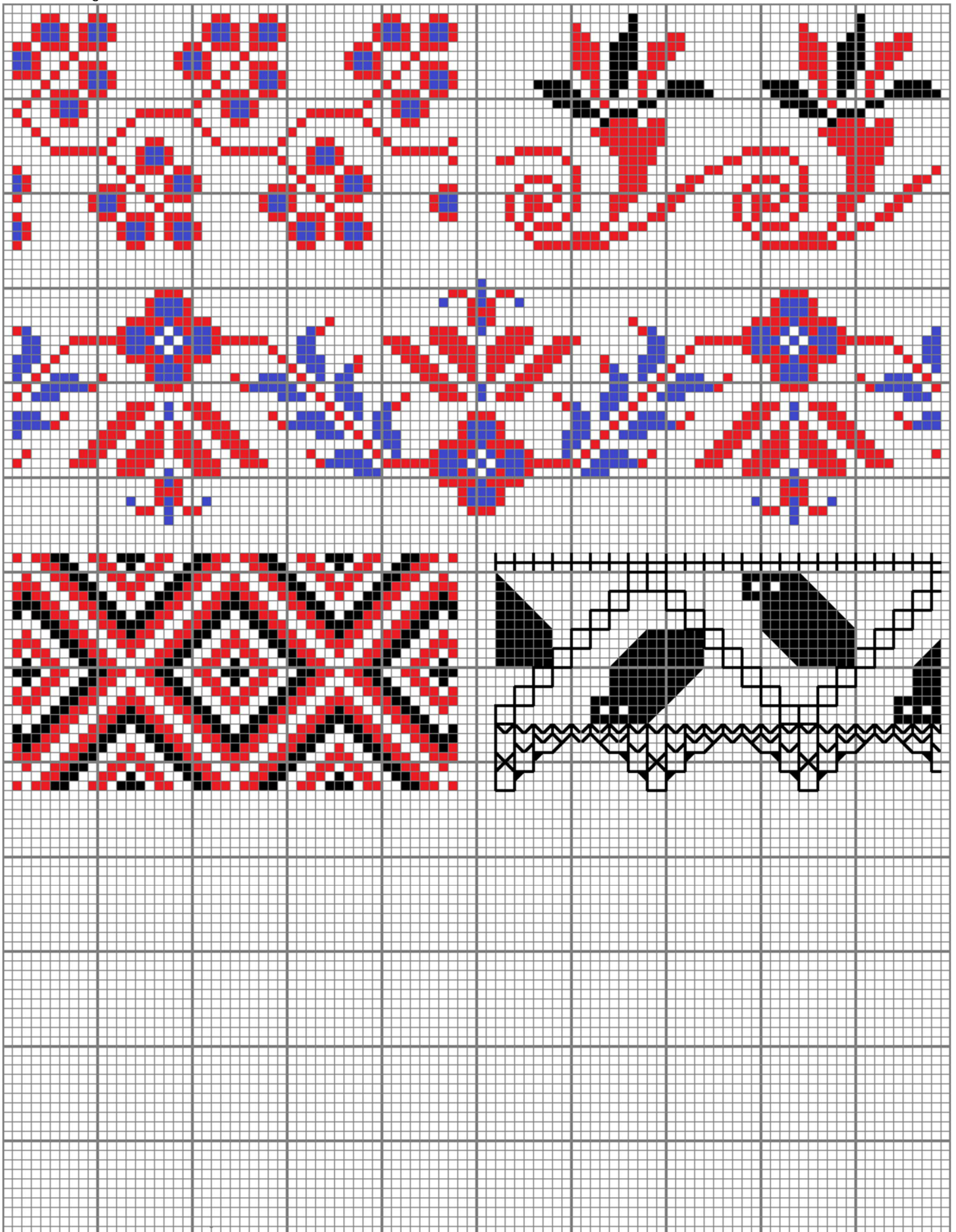


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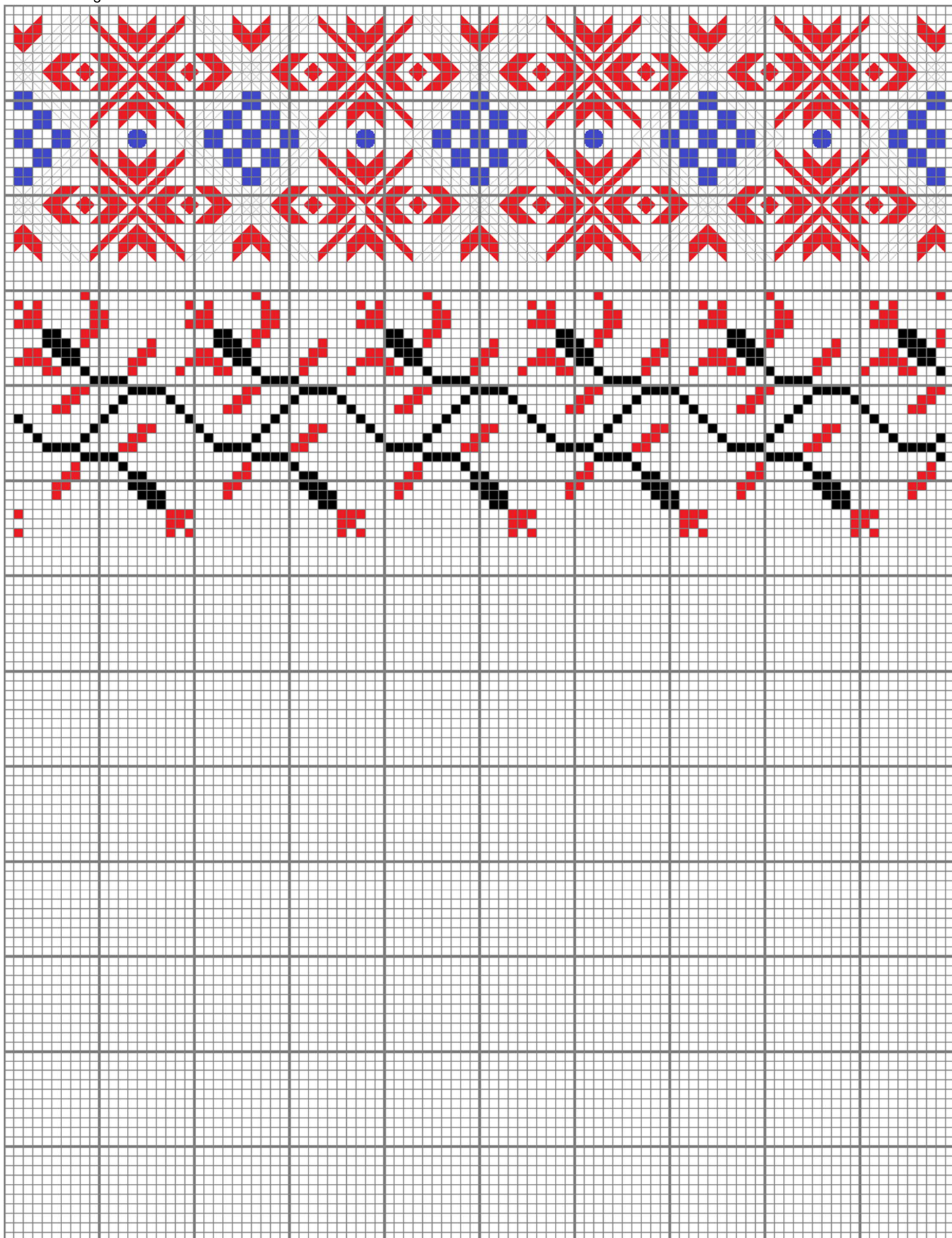


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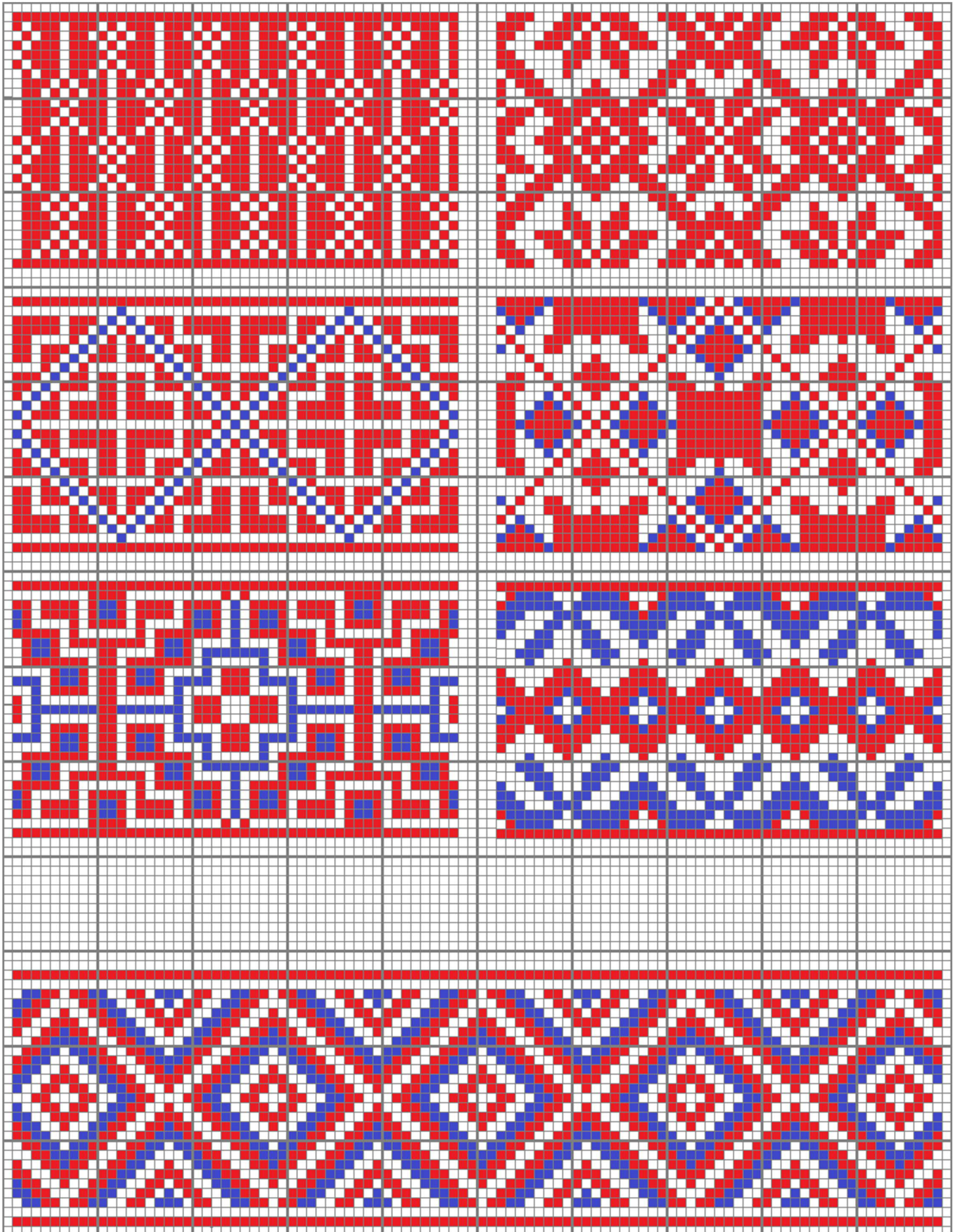


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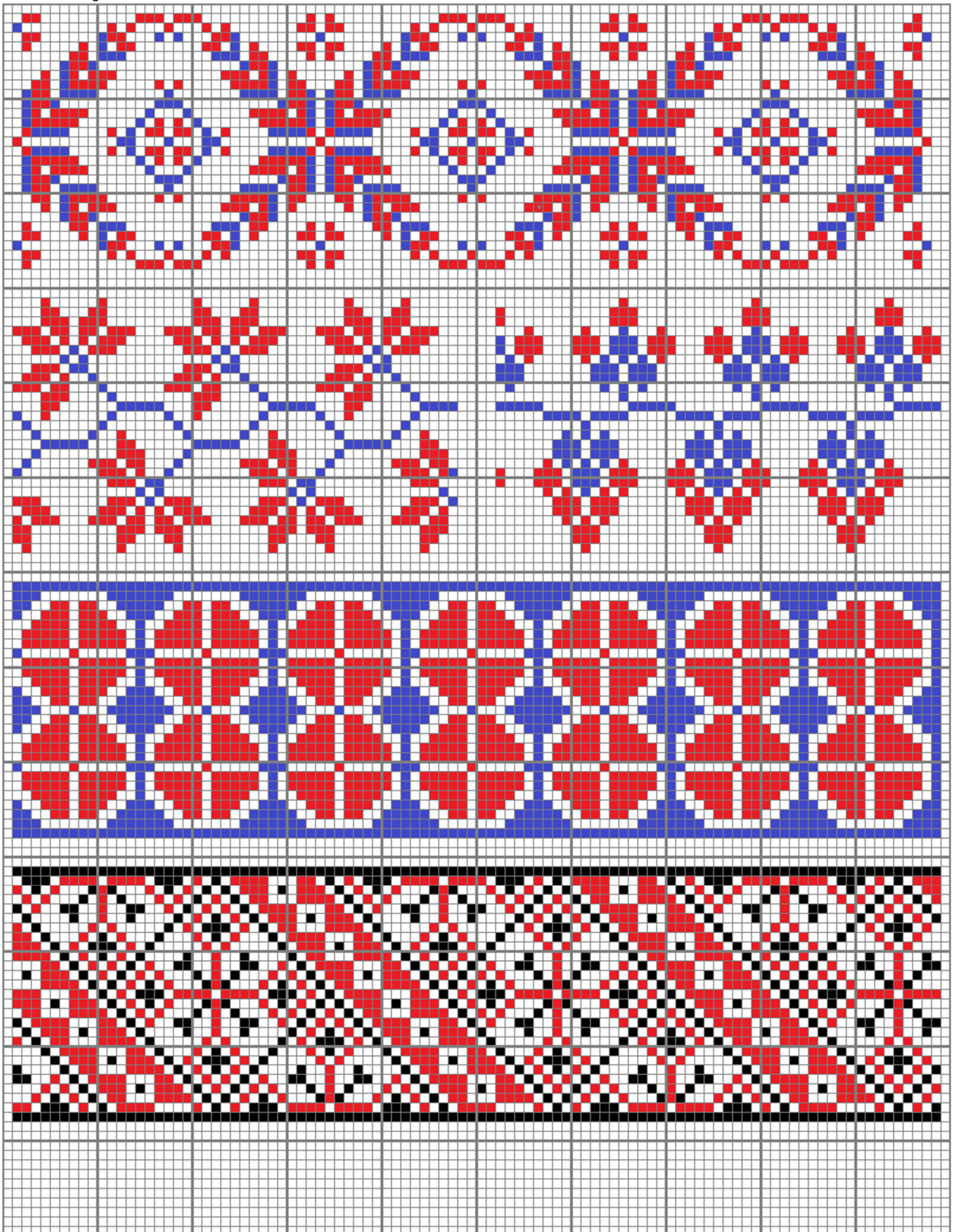


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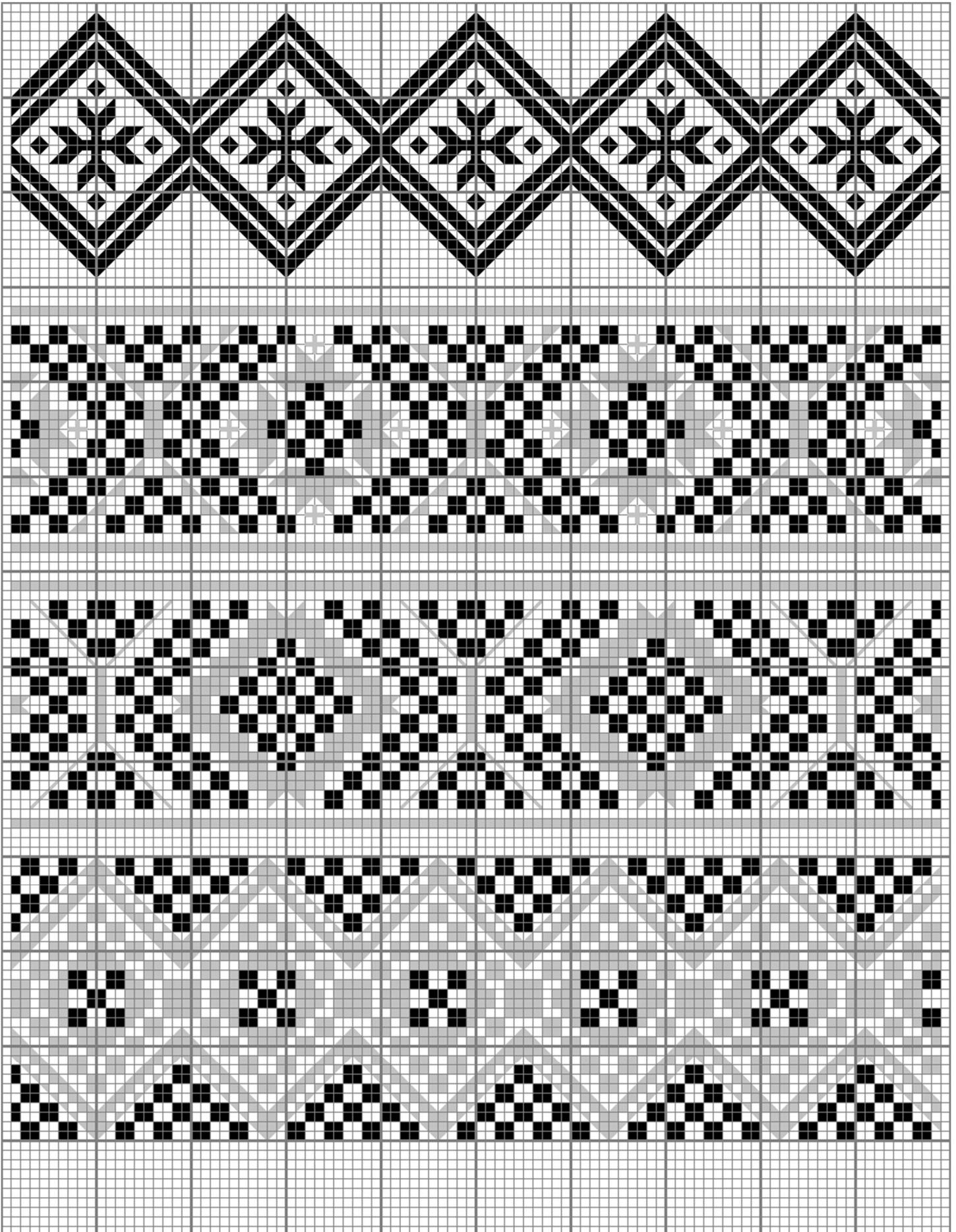


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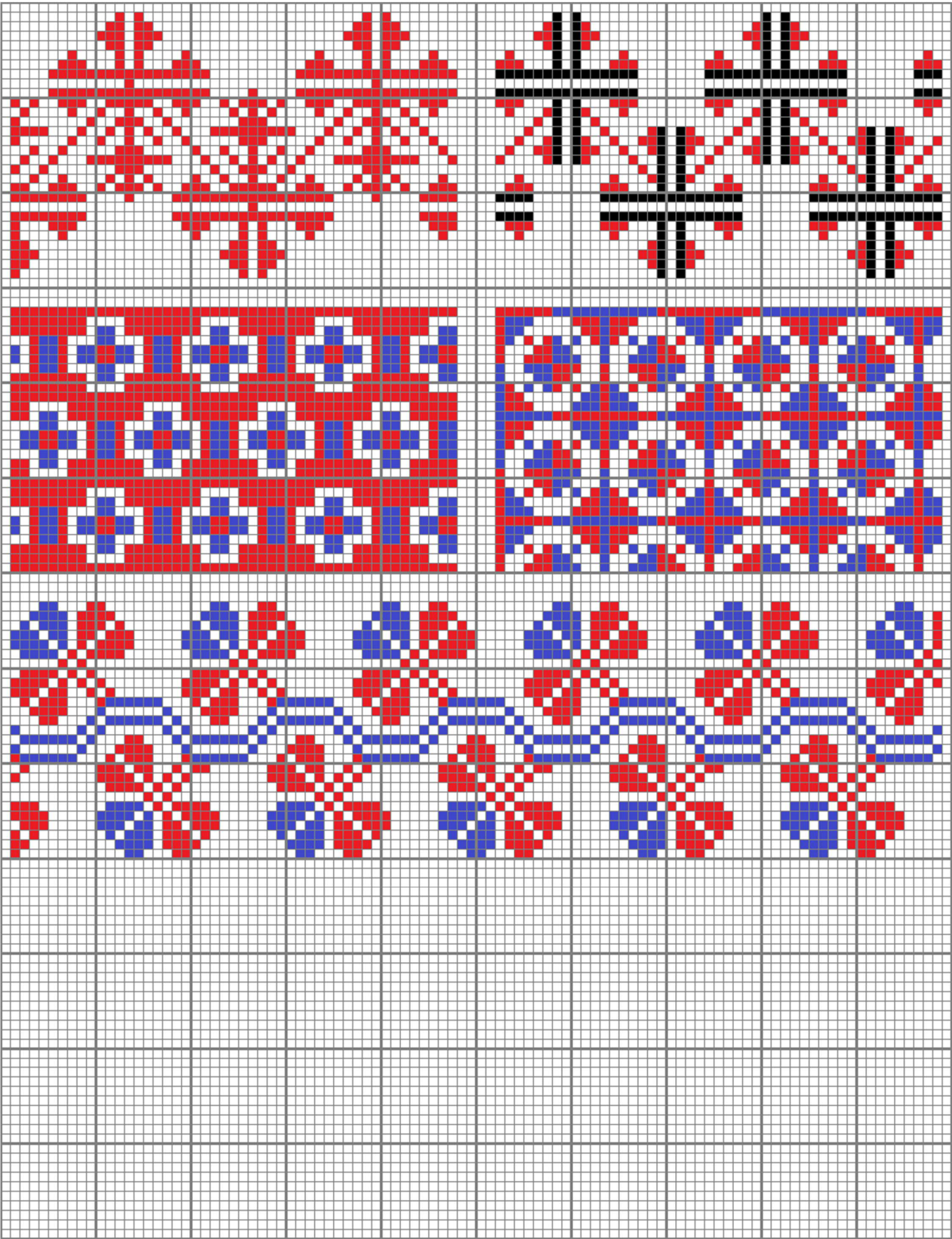


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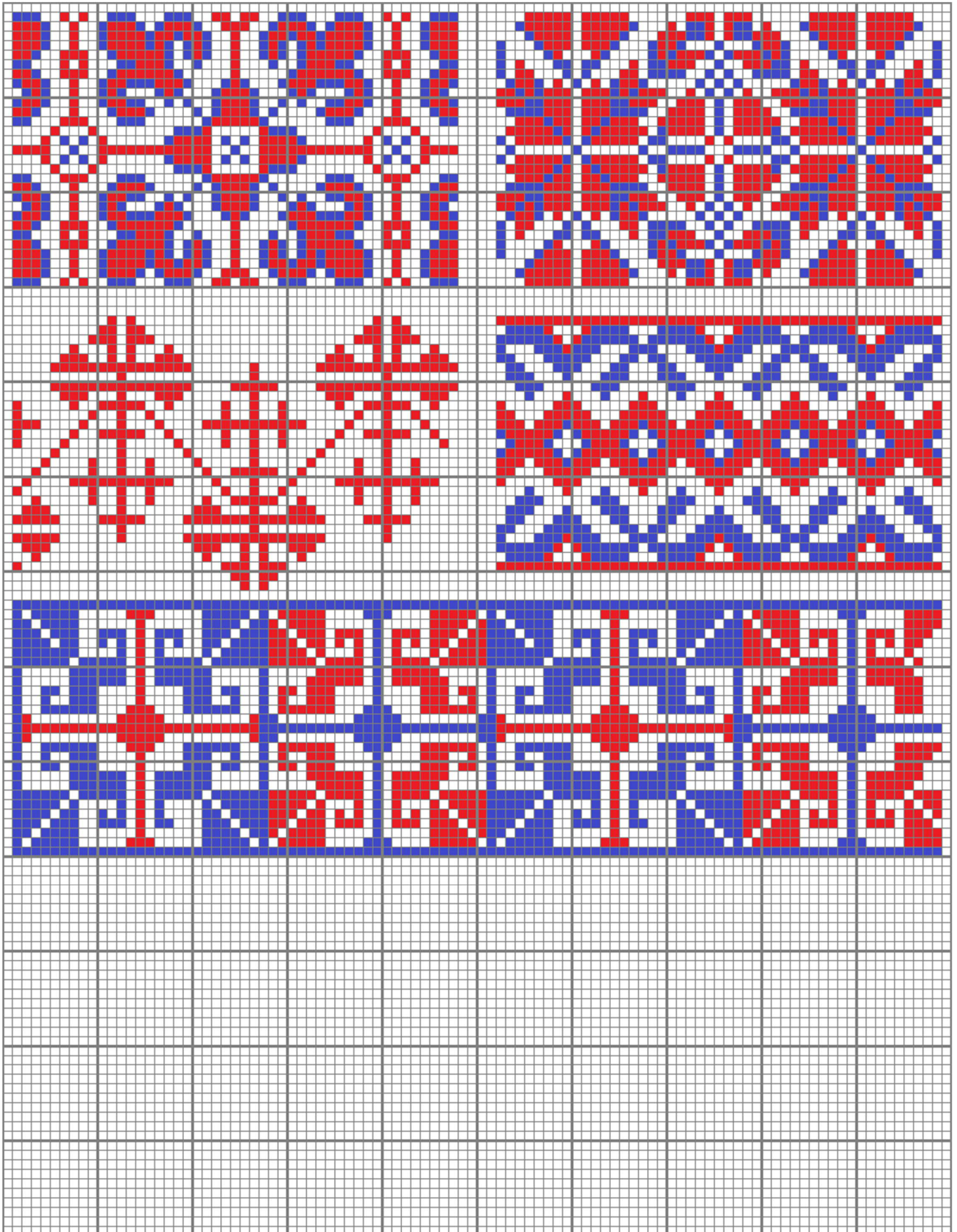


Bands - Height 28





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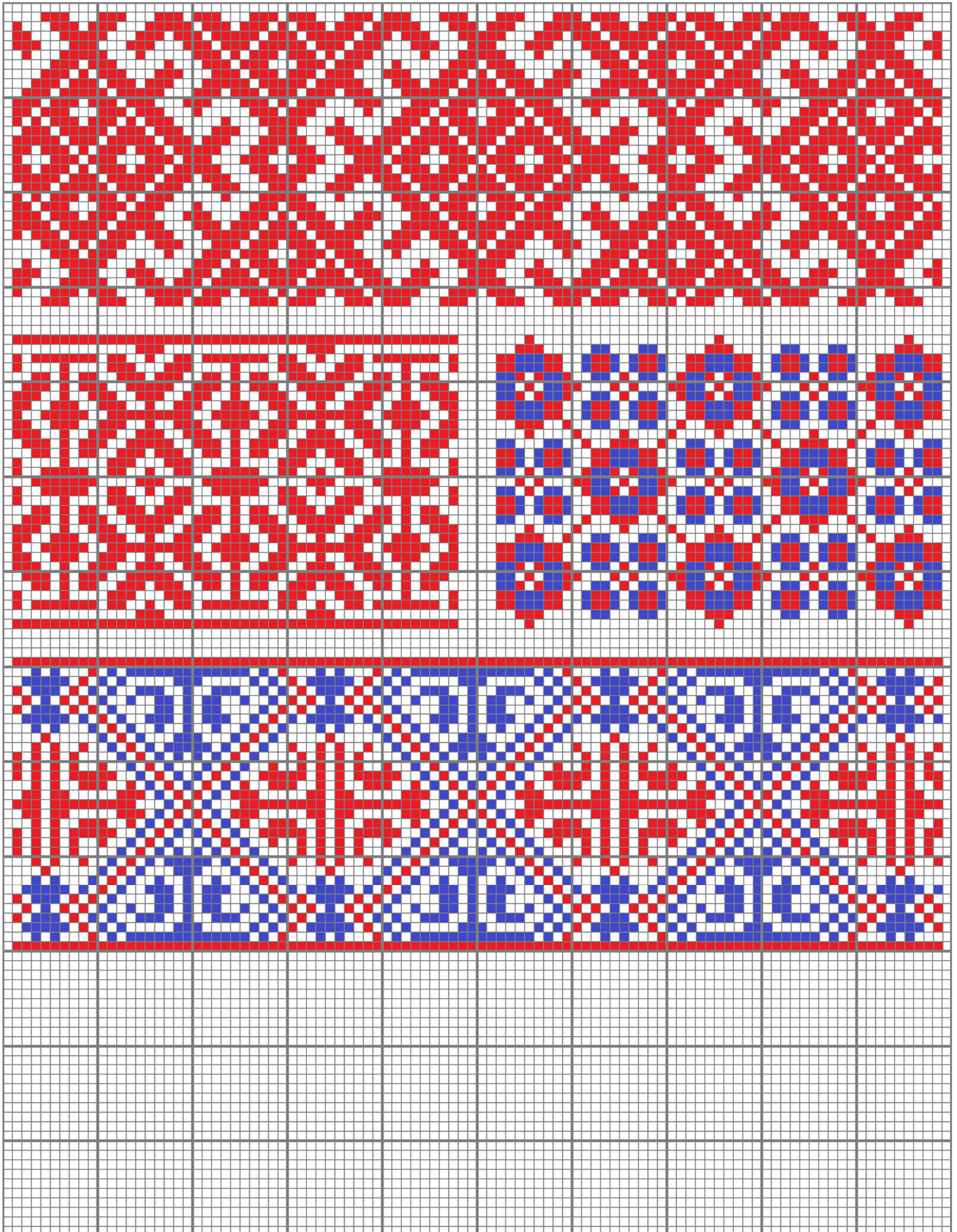


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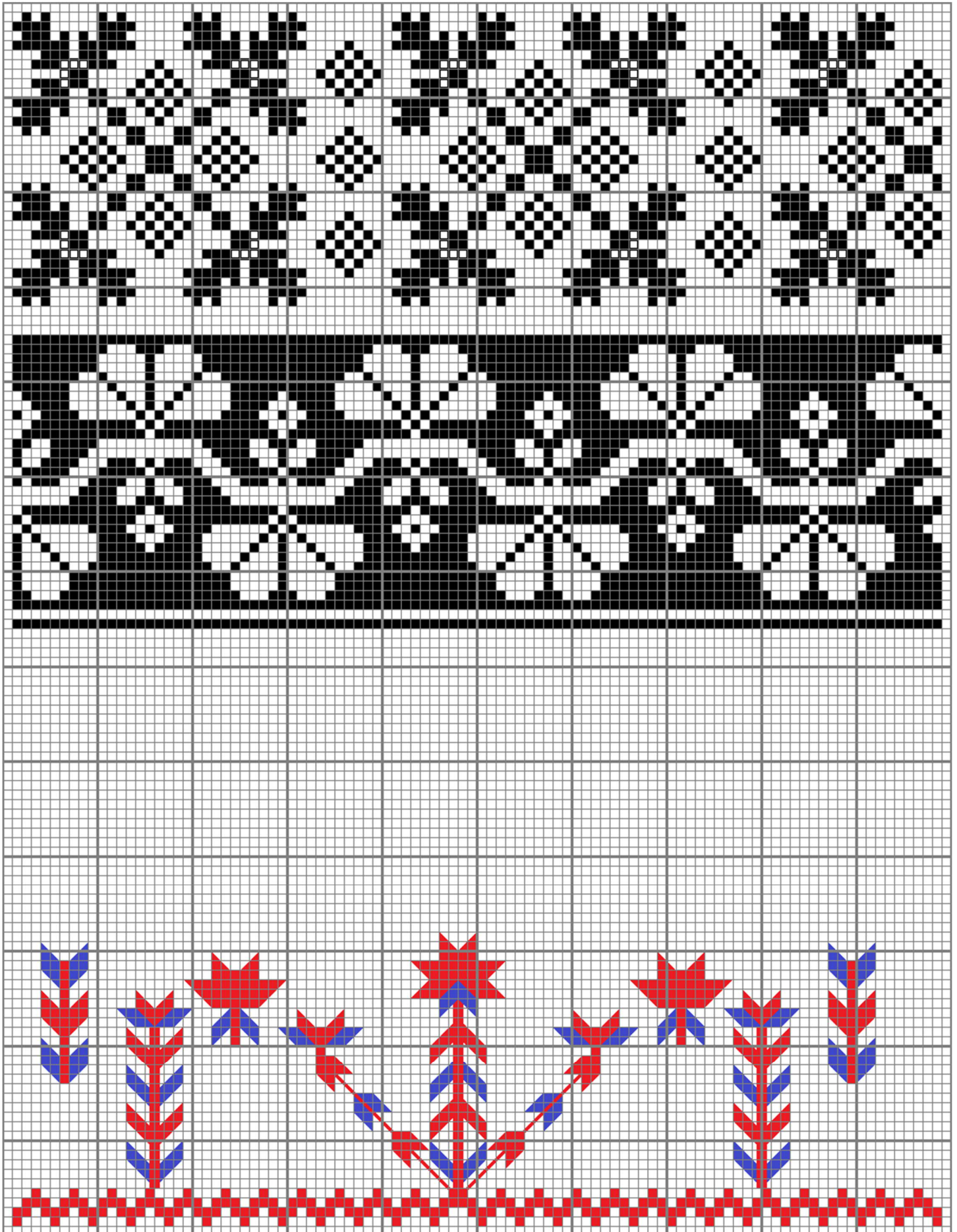


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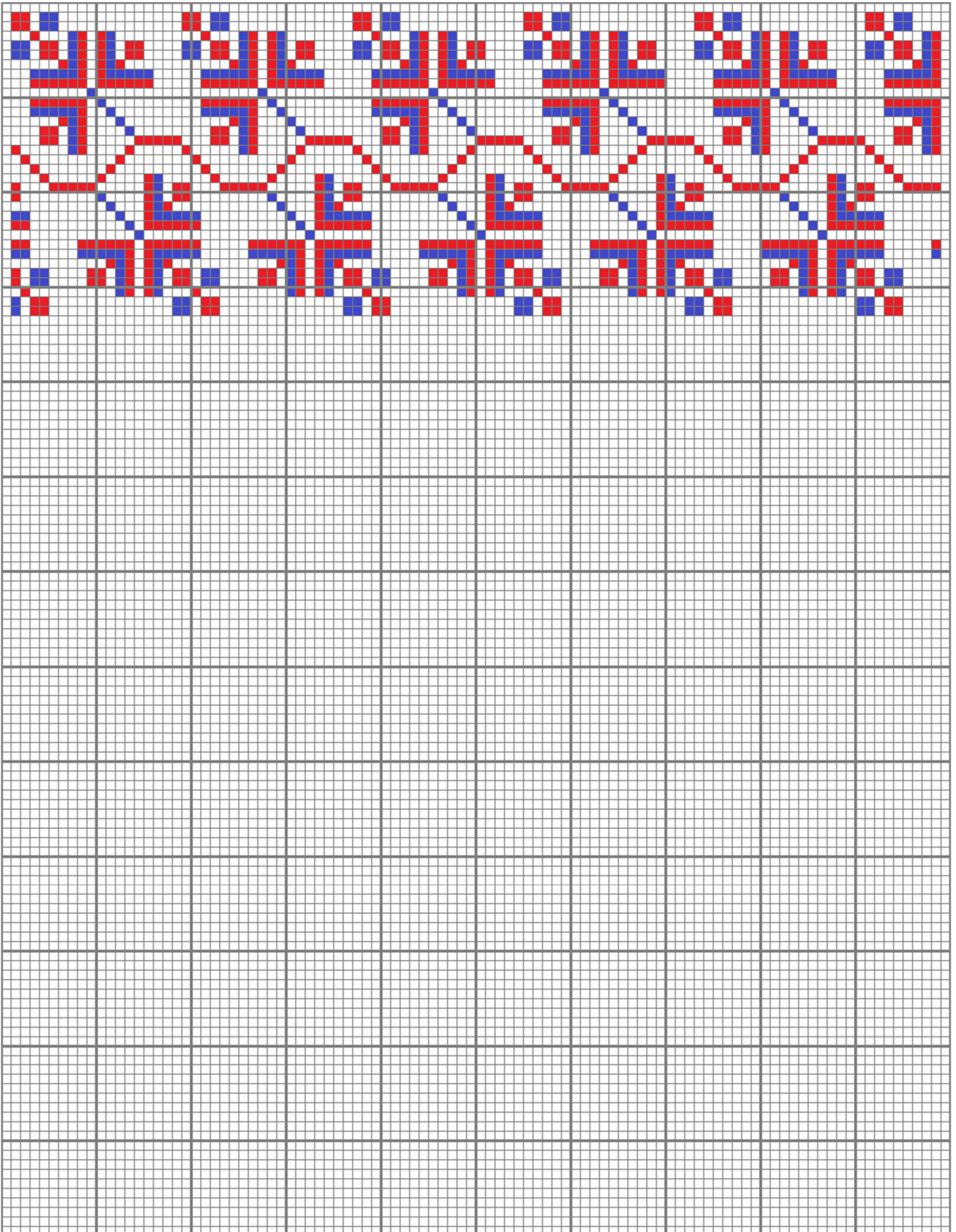


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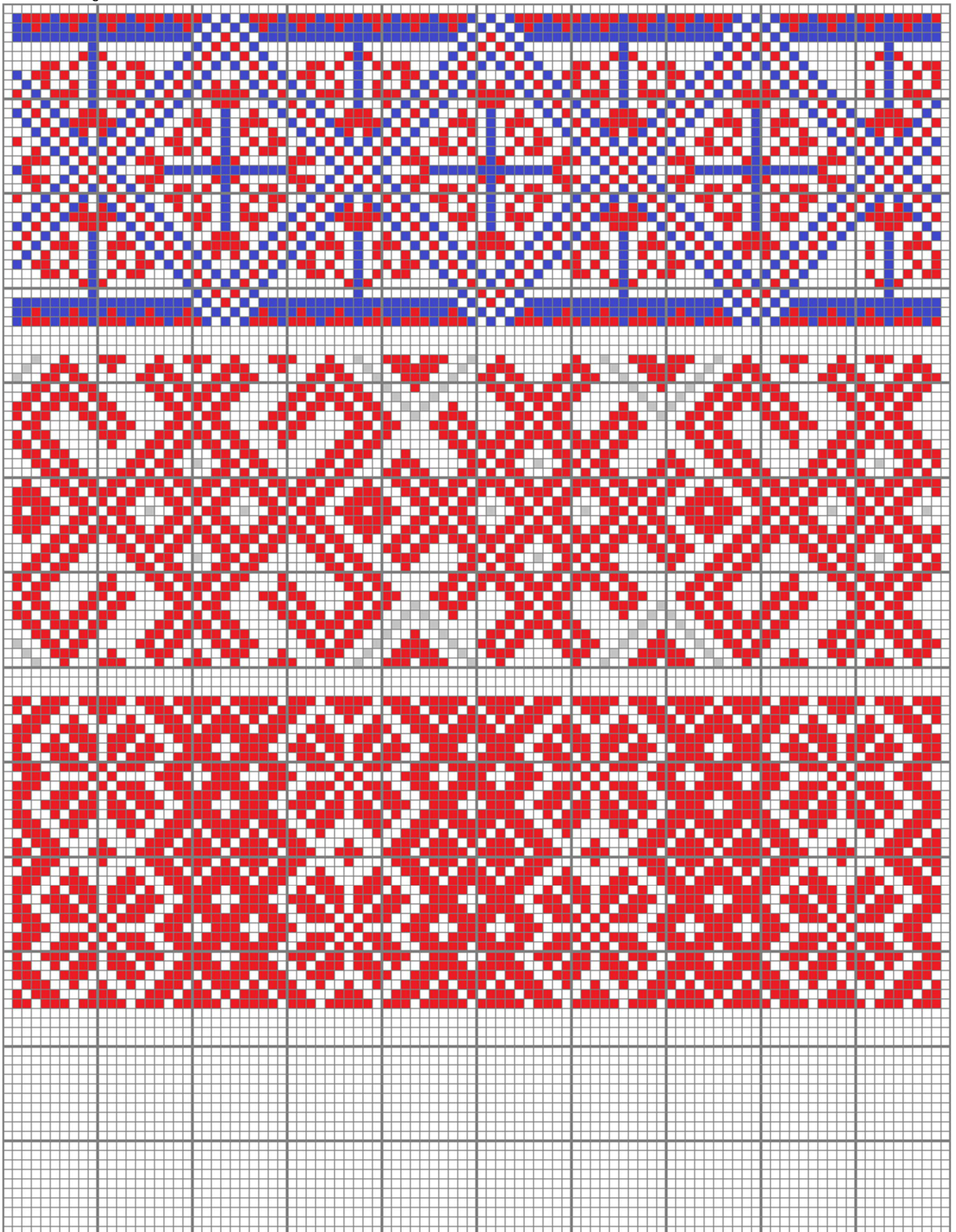


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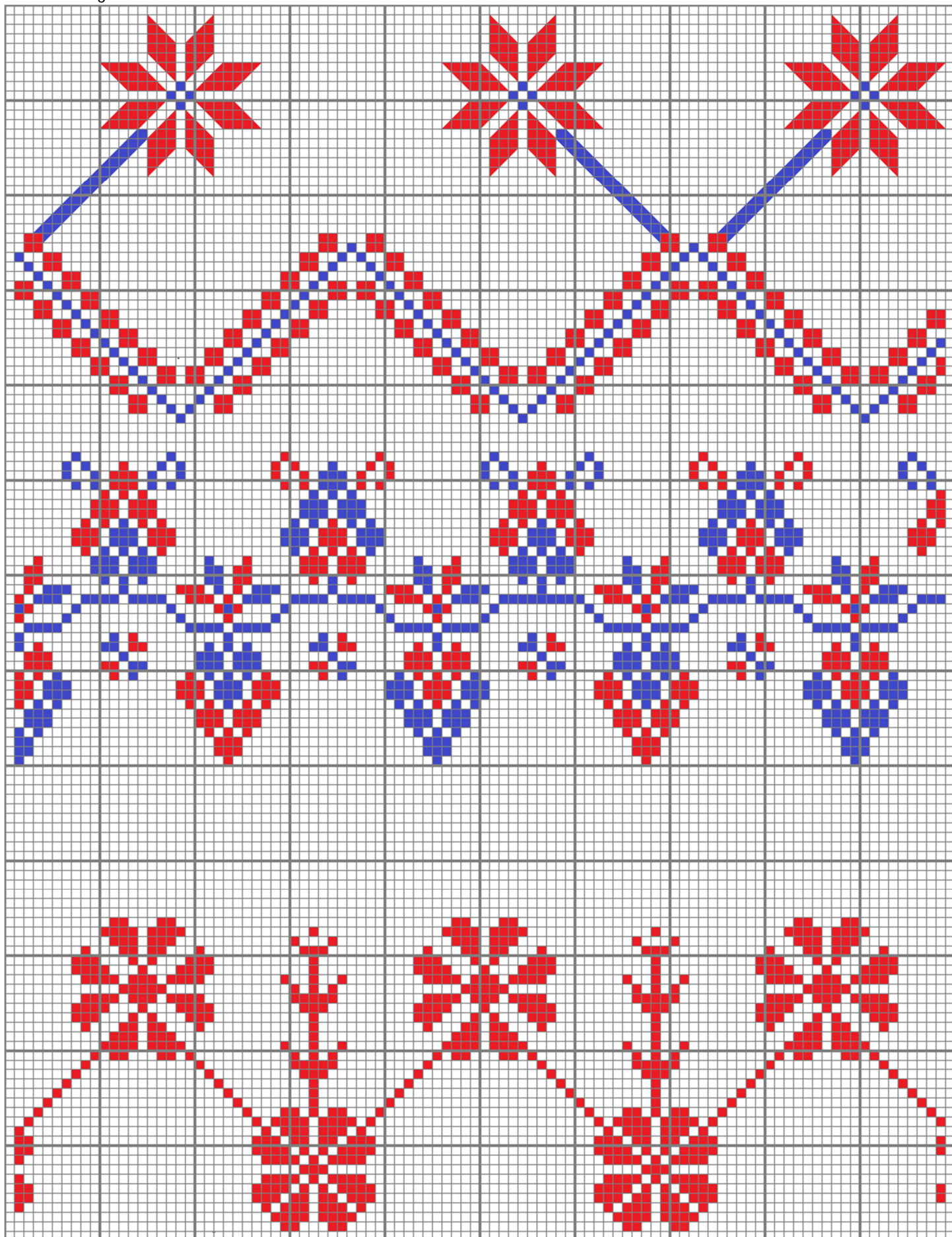


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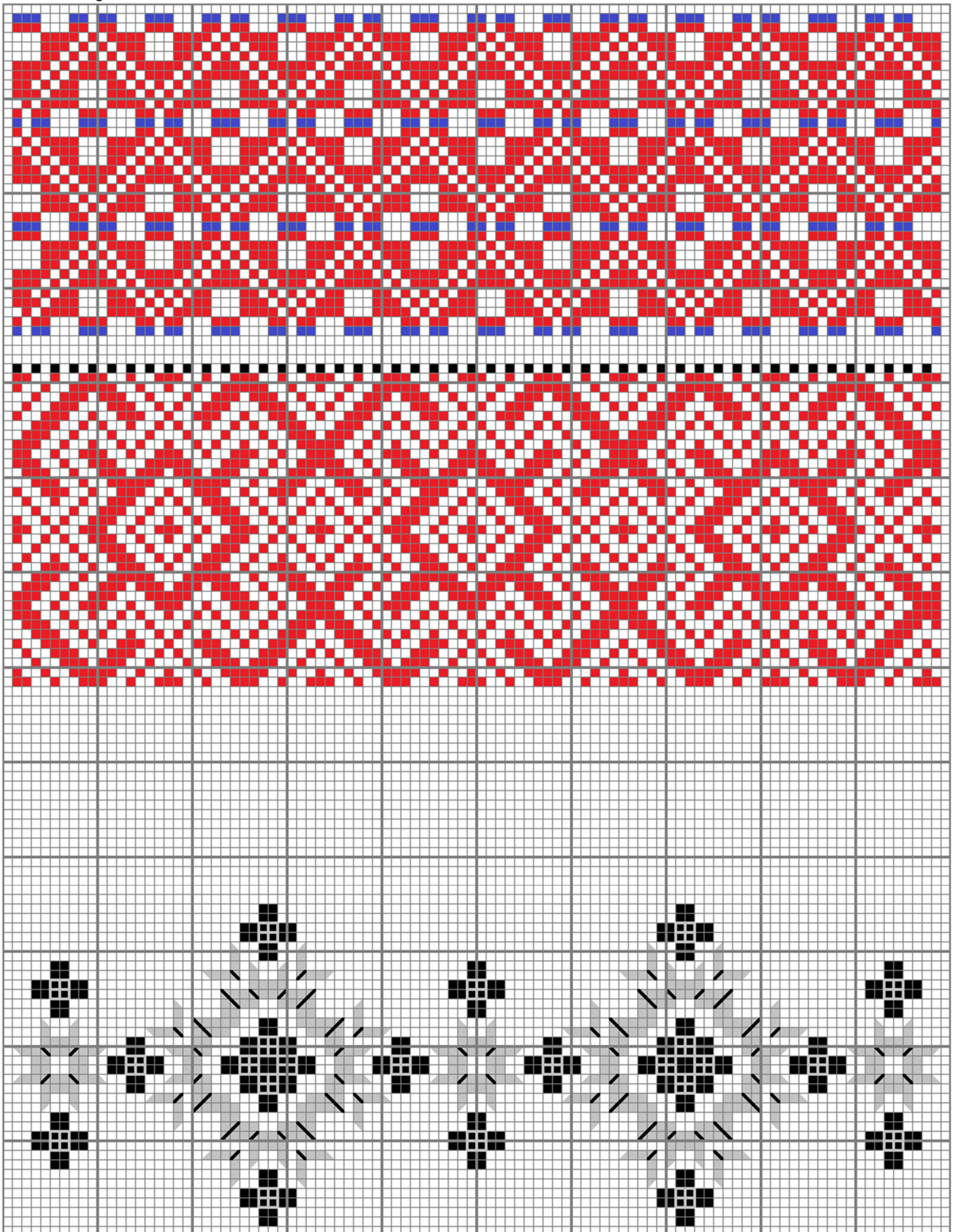


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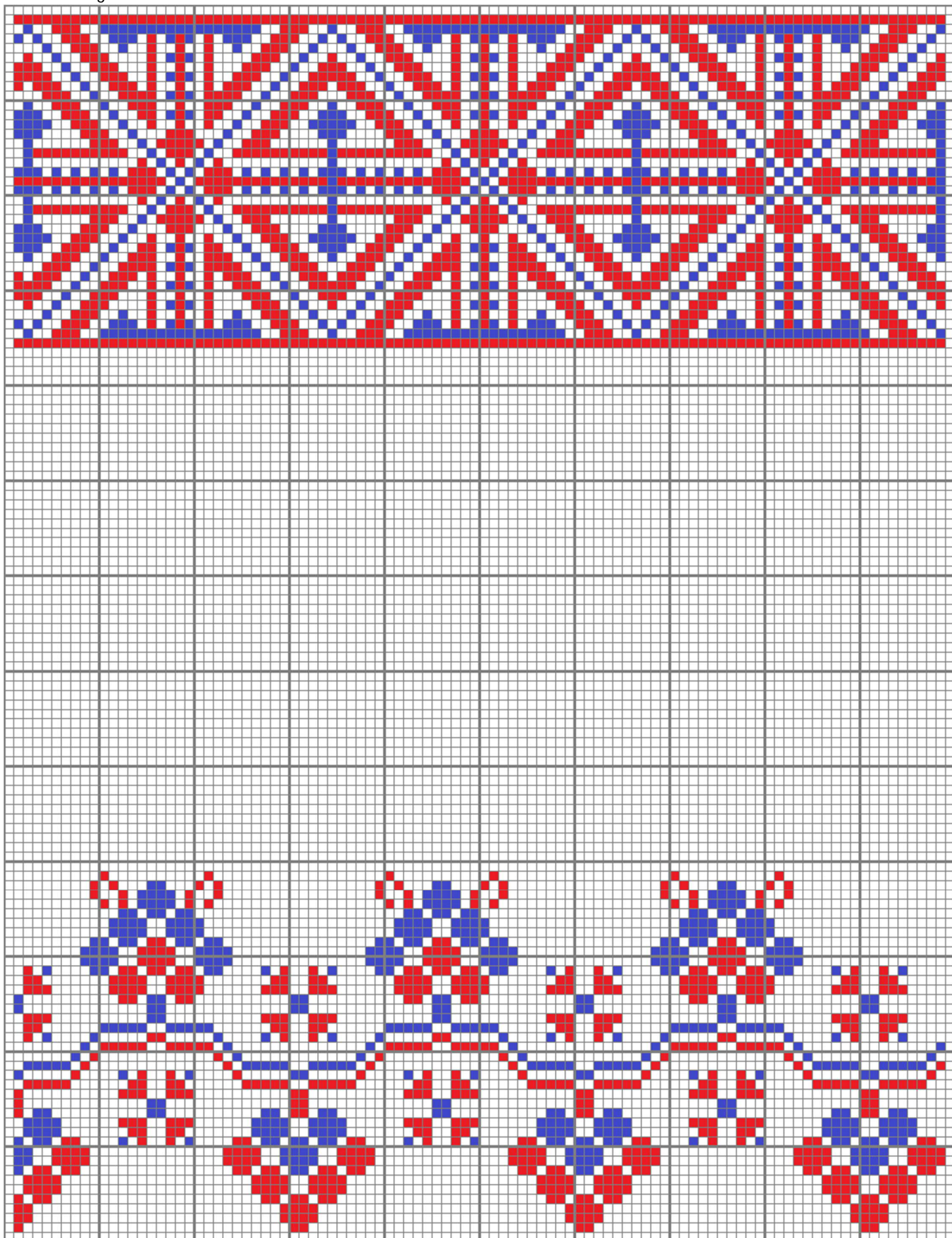


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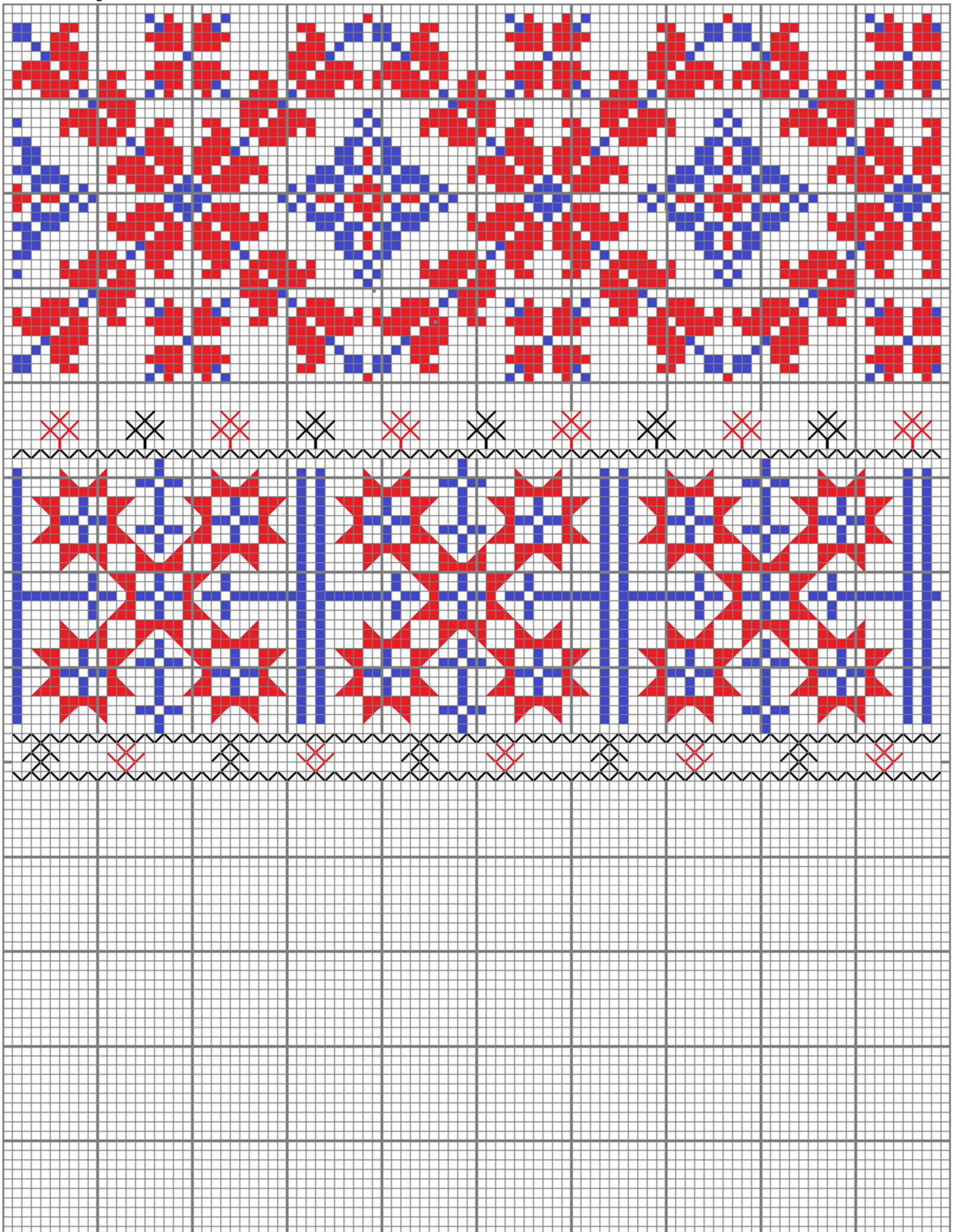


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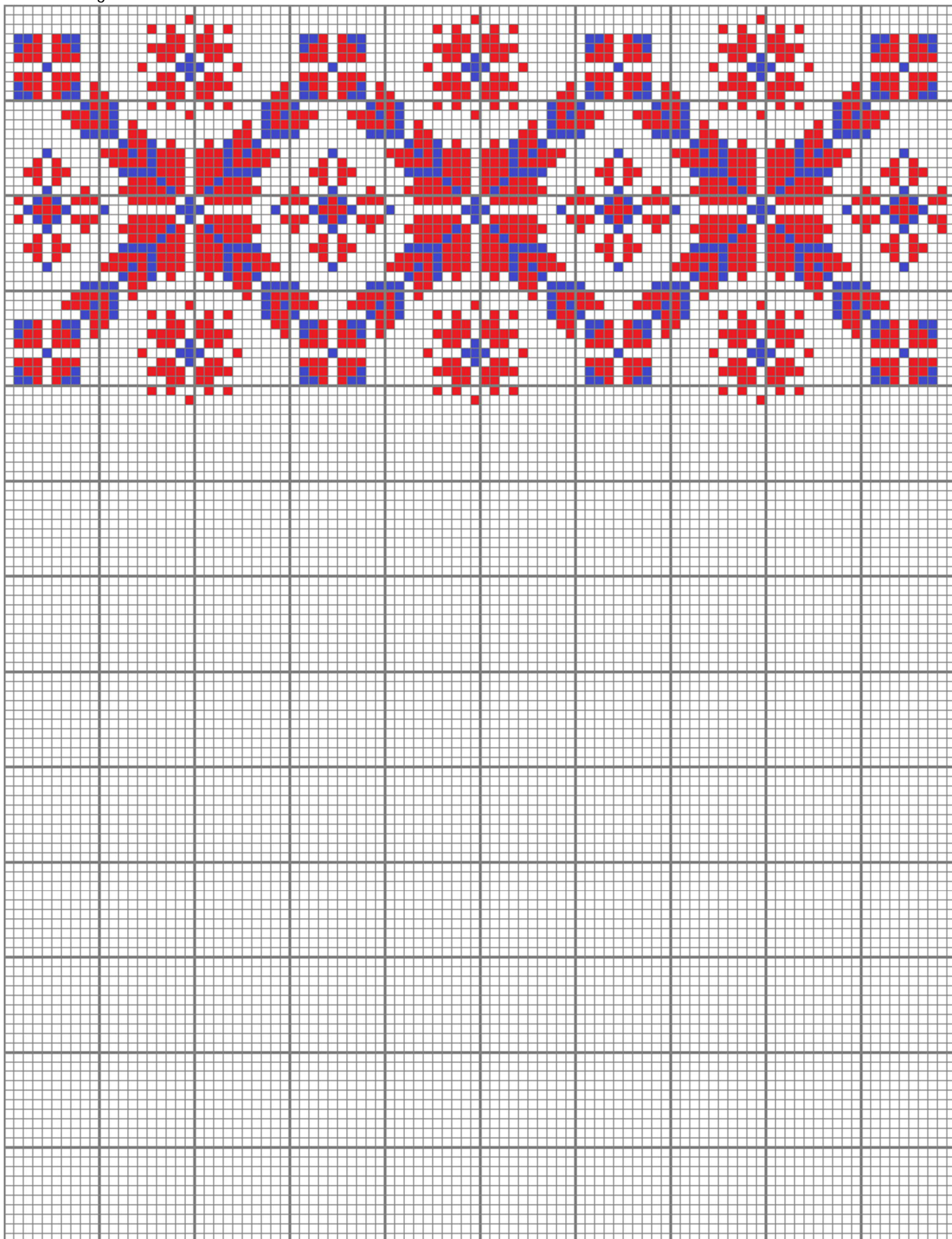


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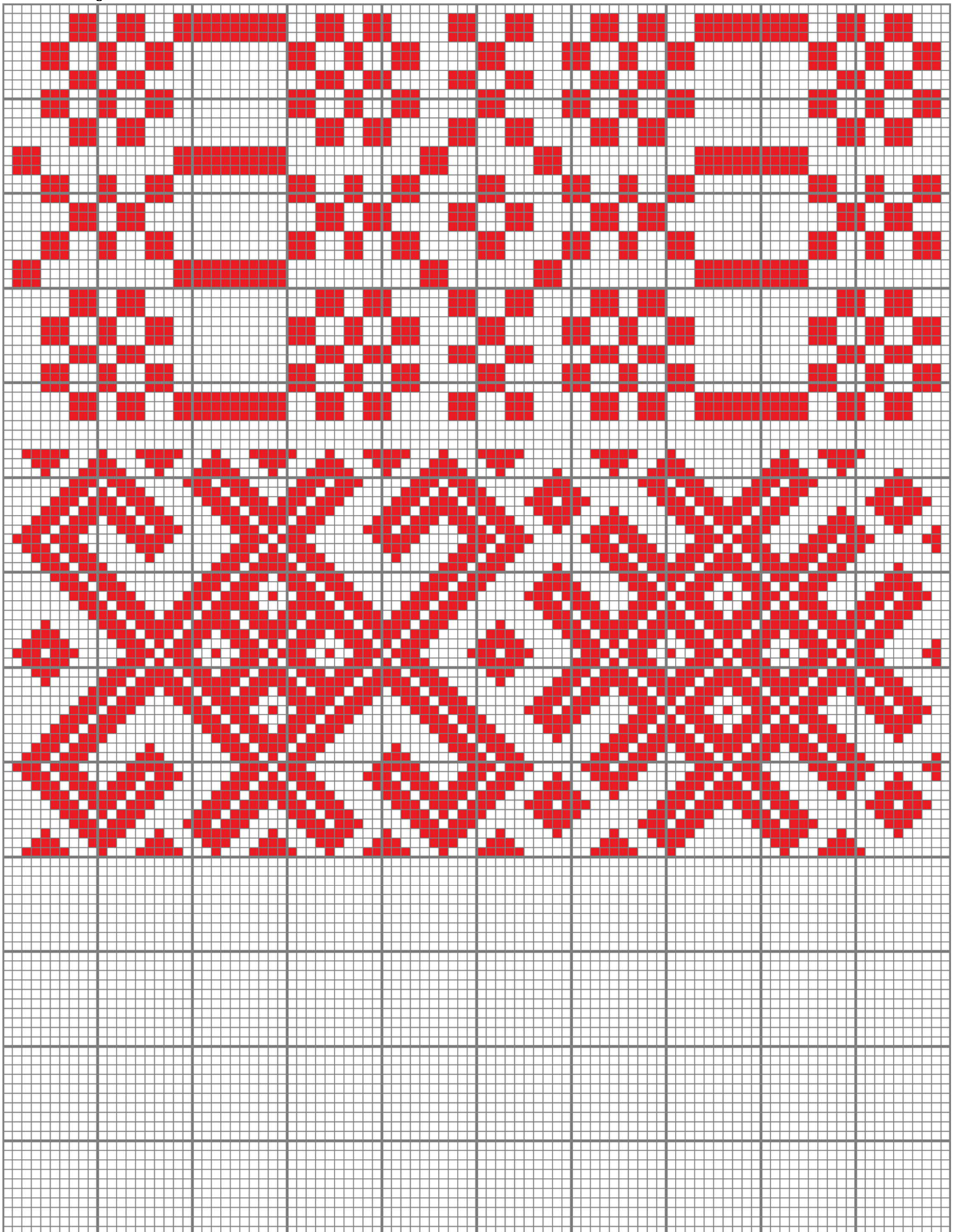


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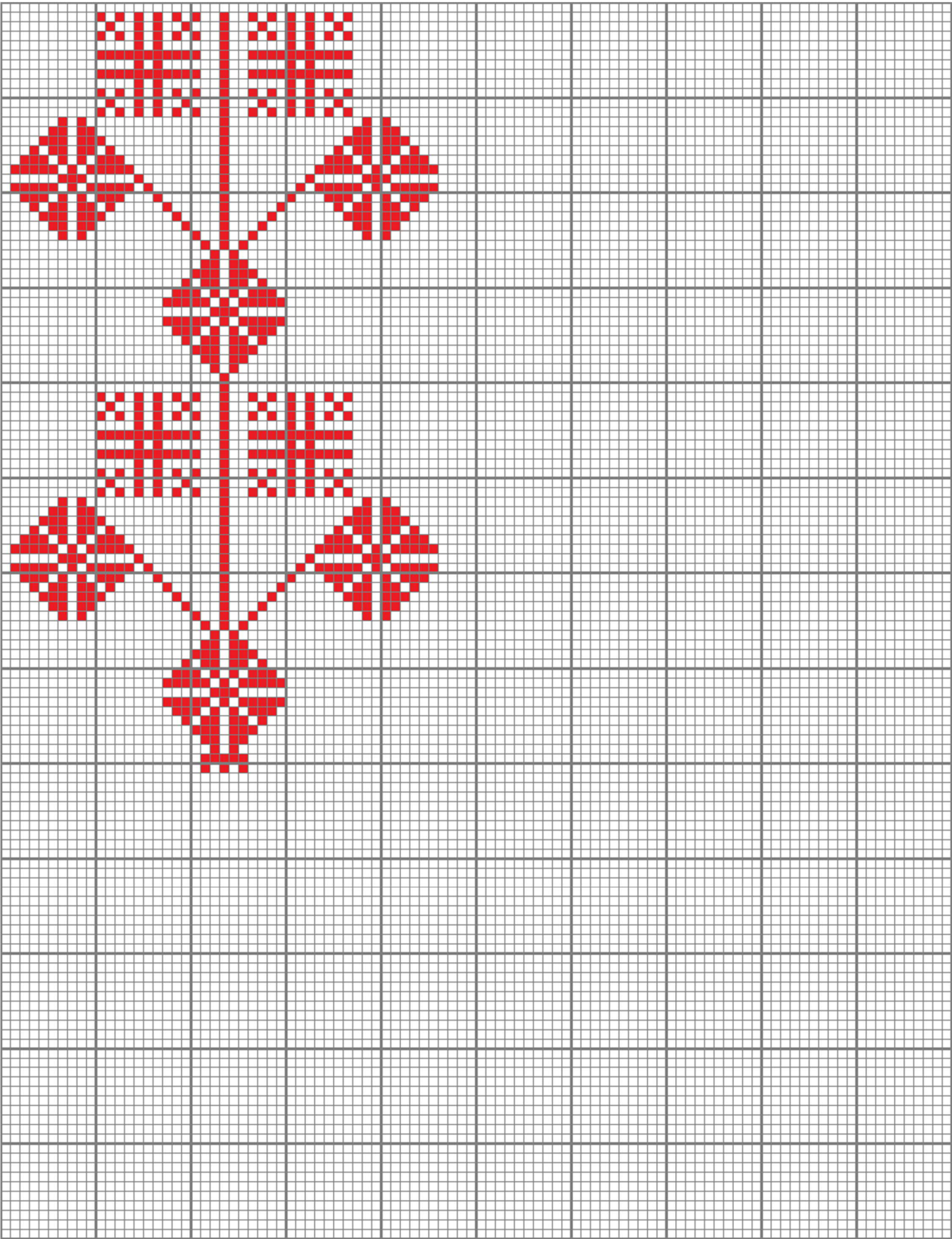


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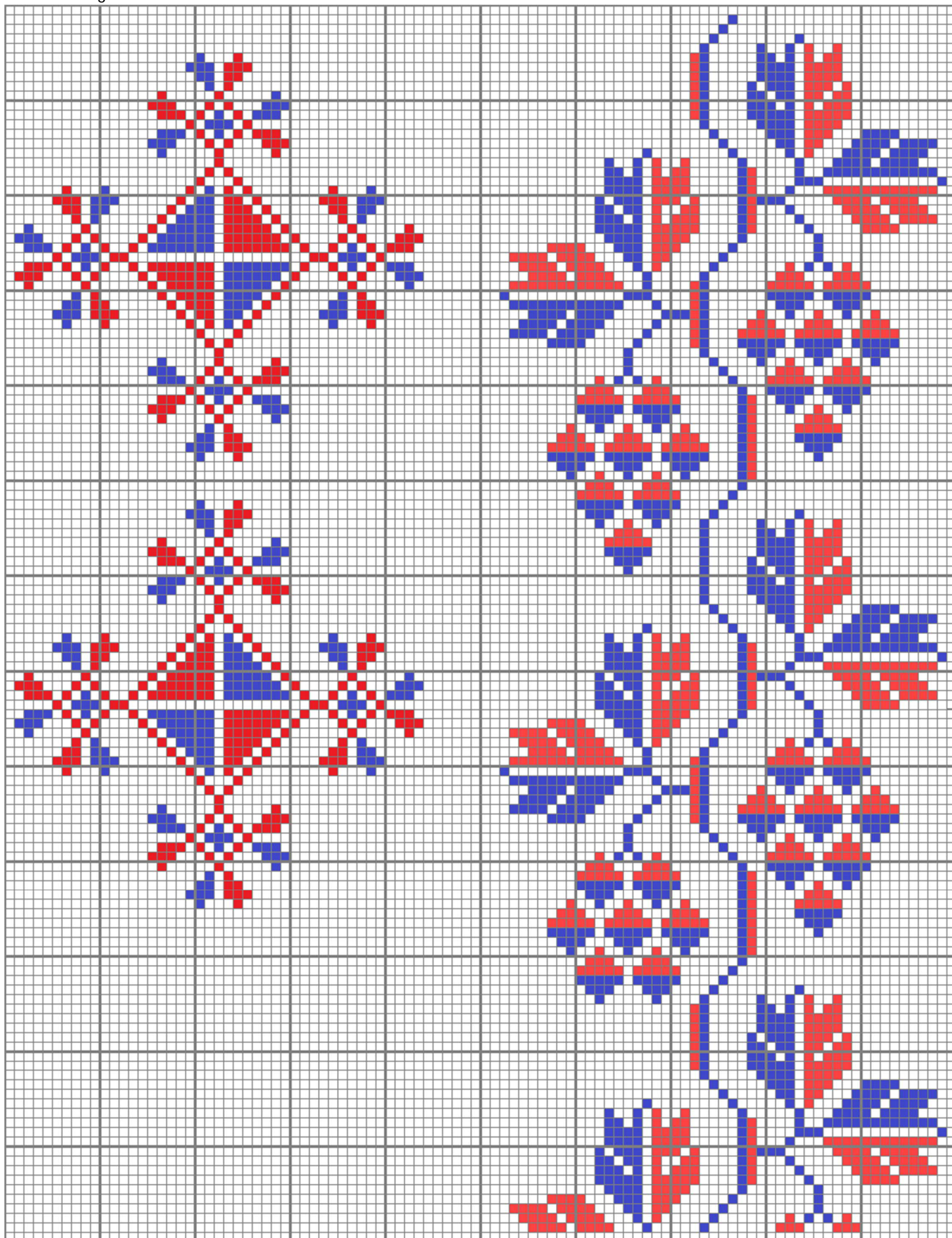


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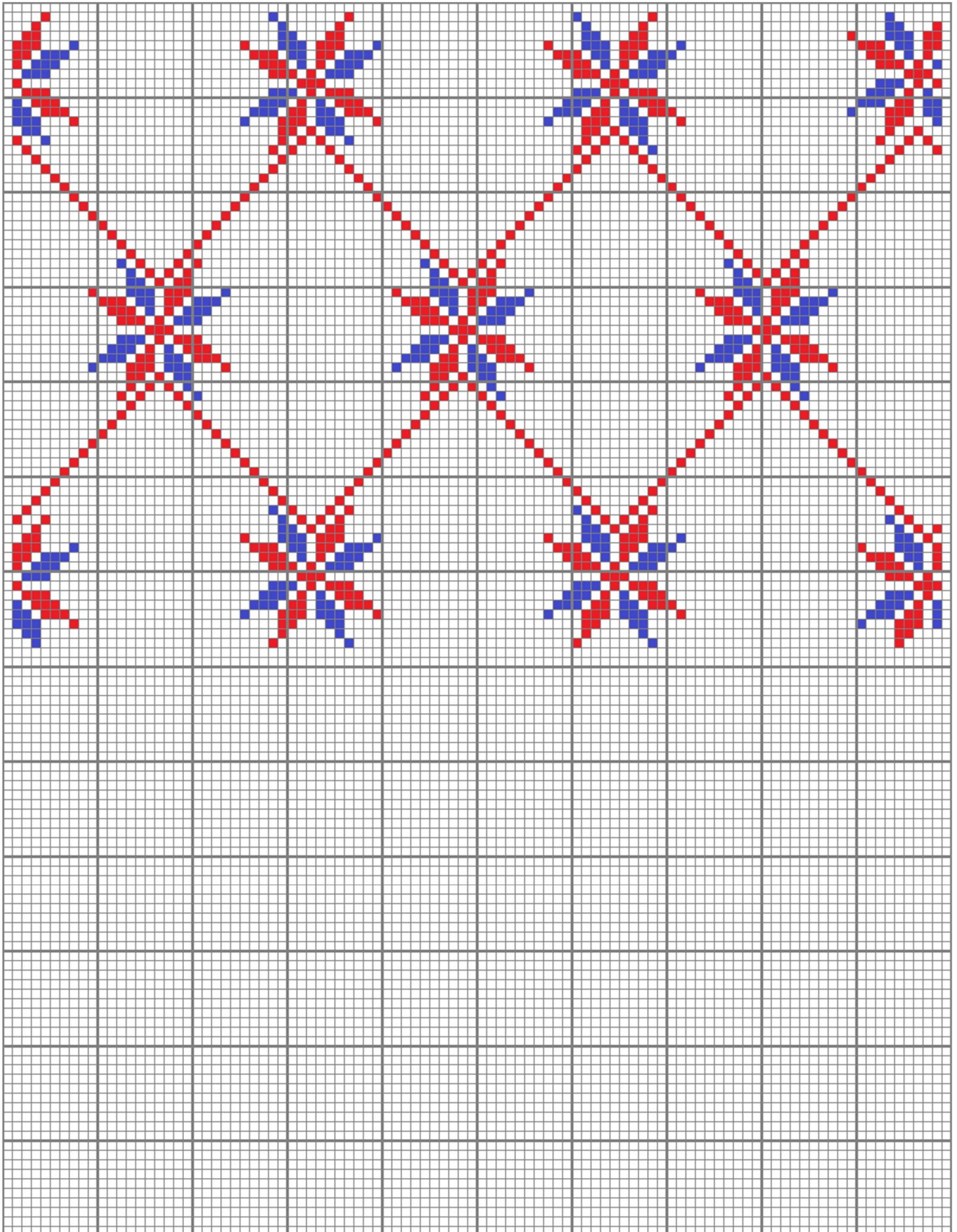


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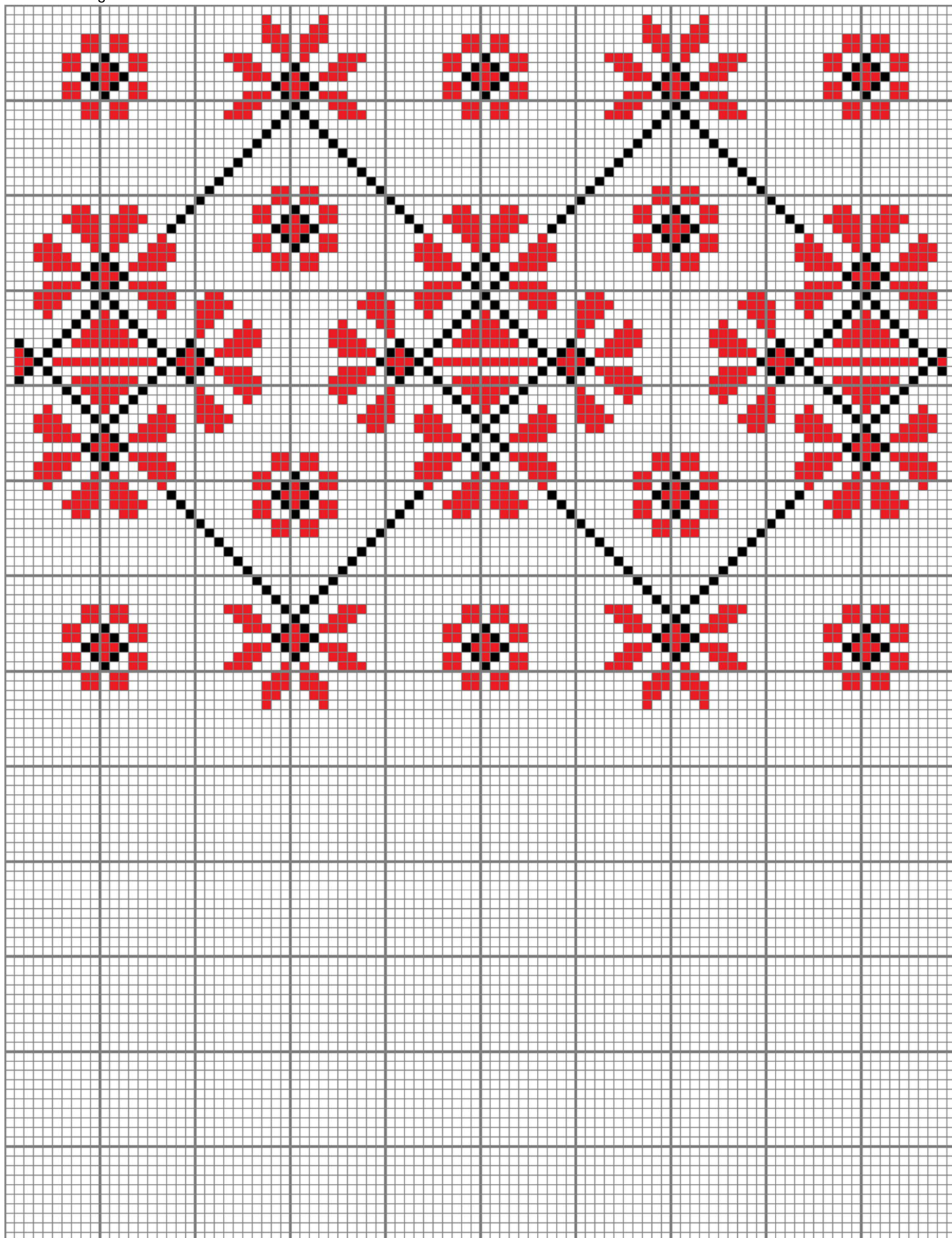


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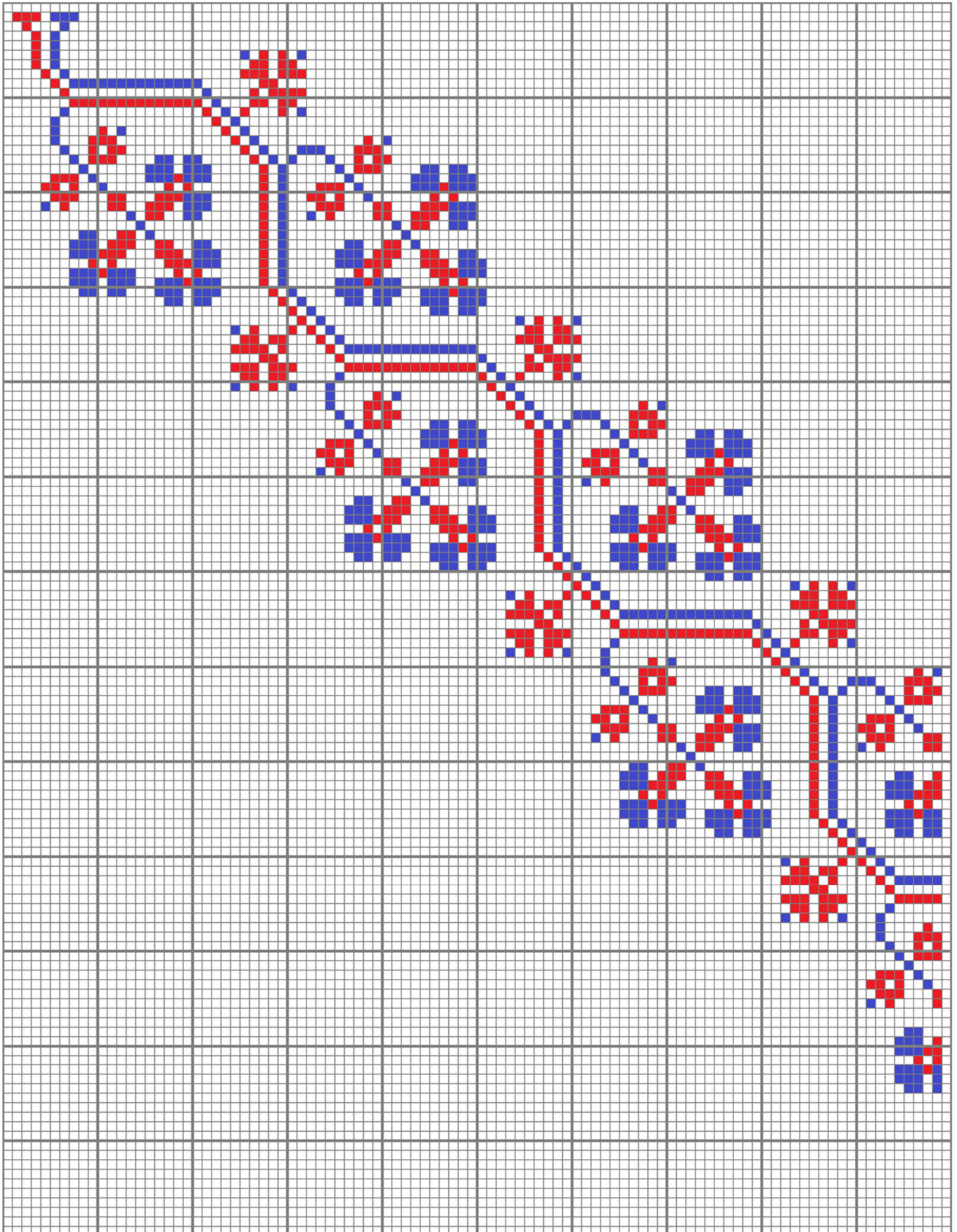


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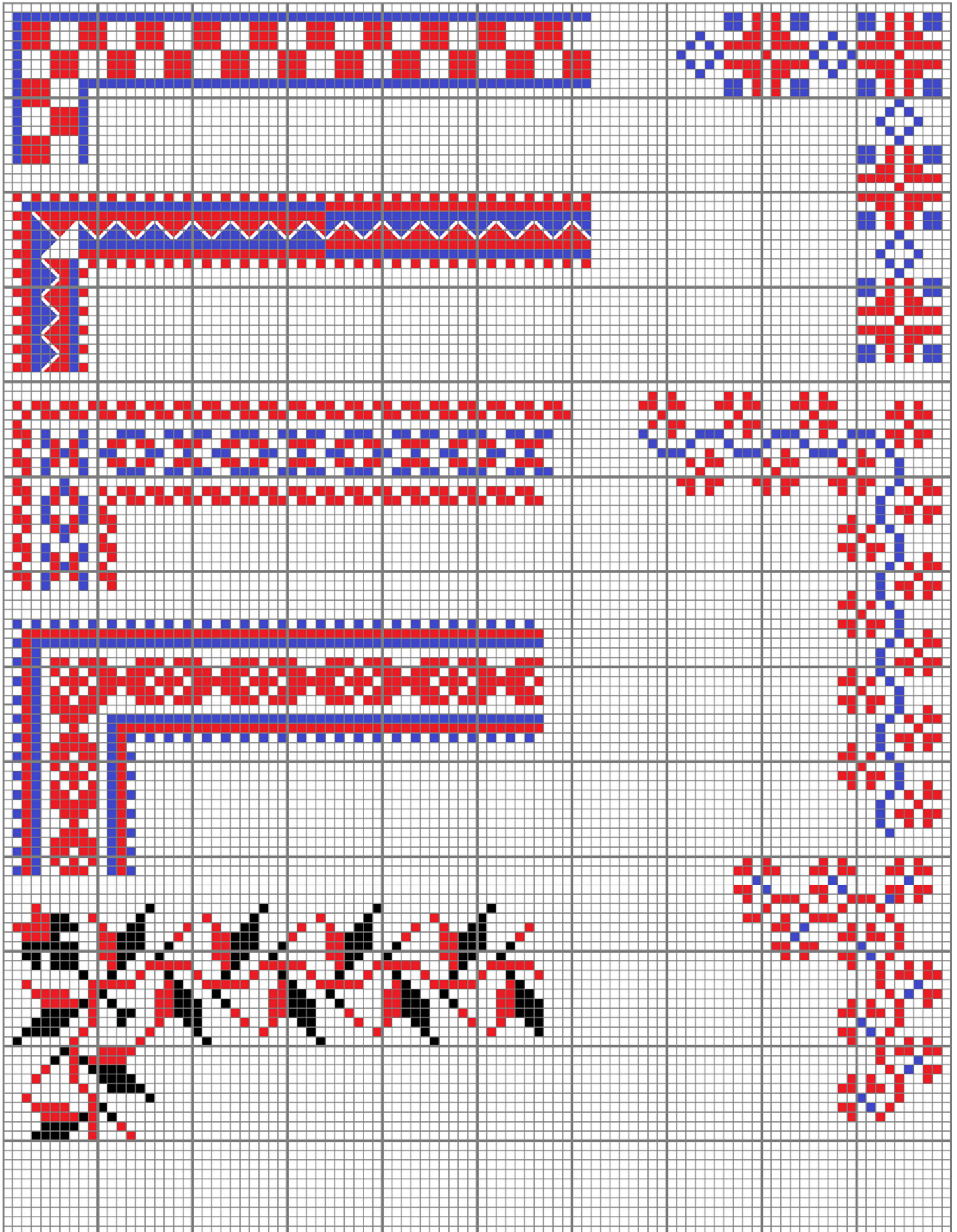


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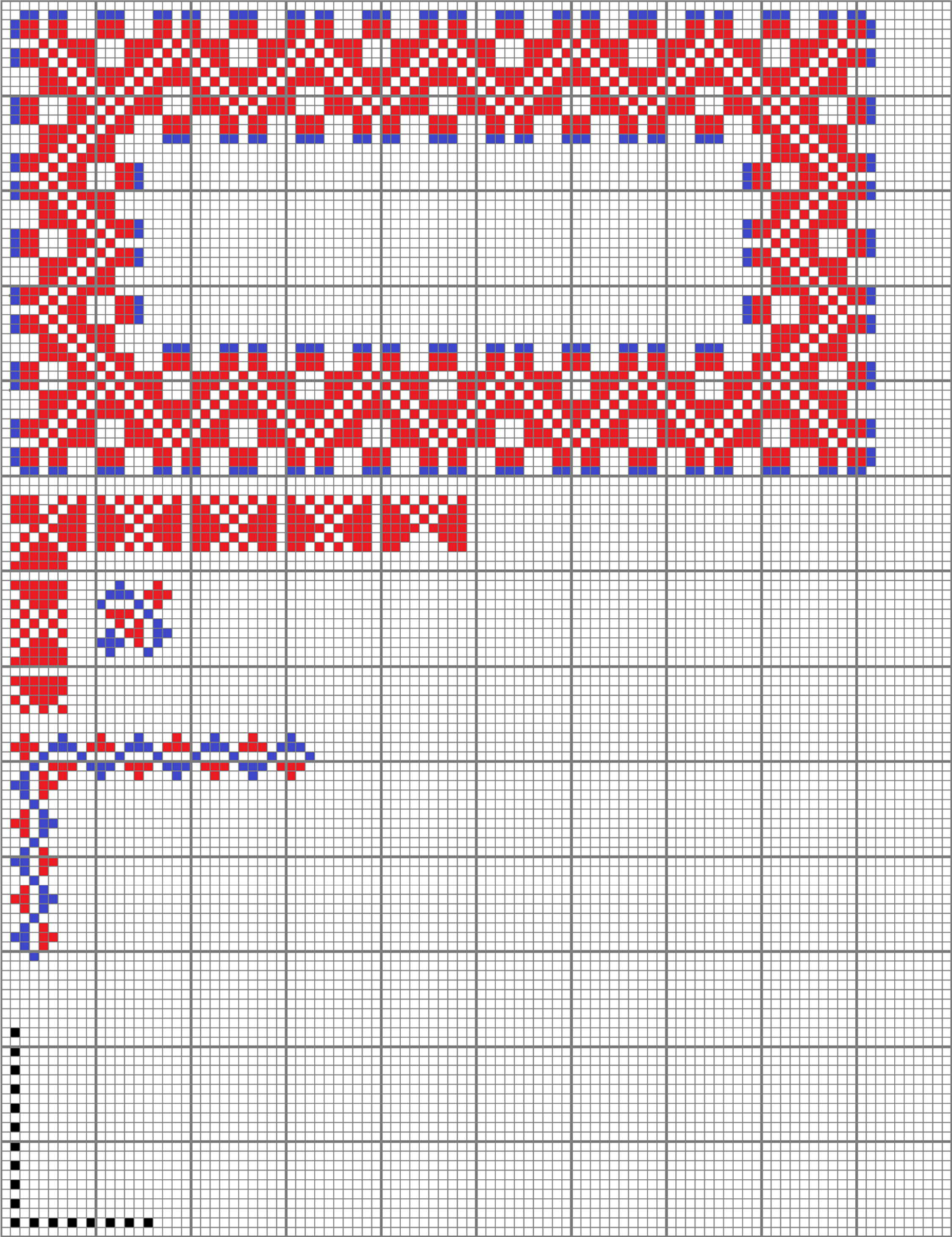


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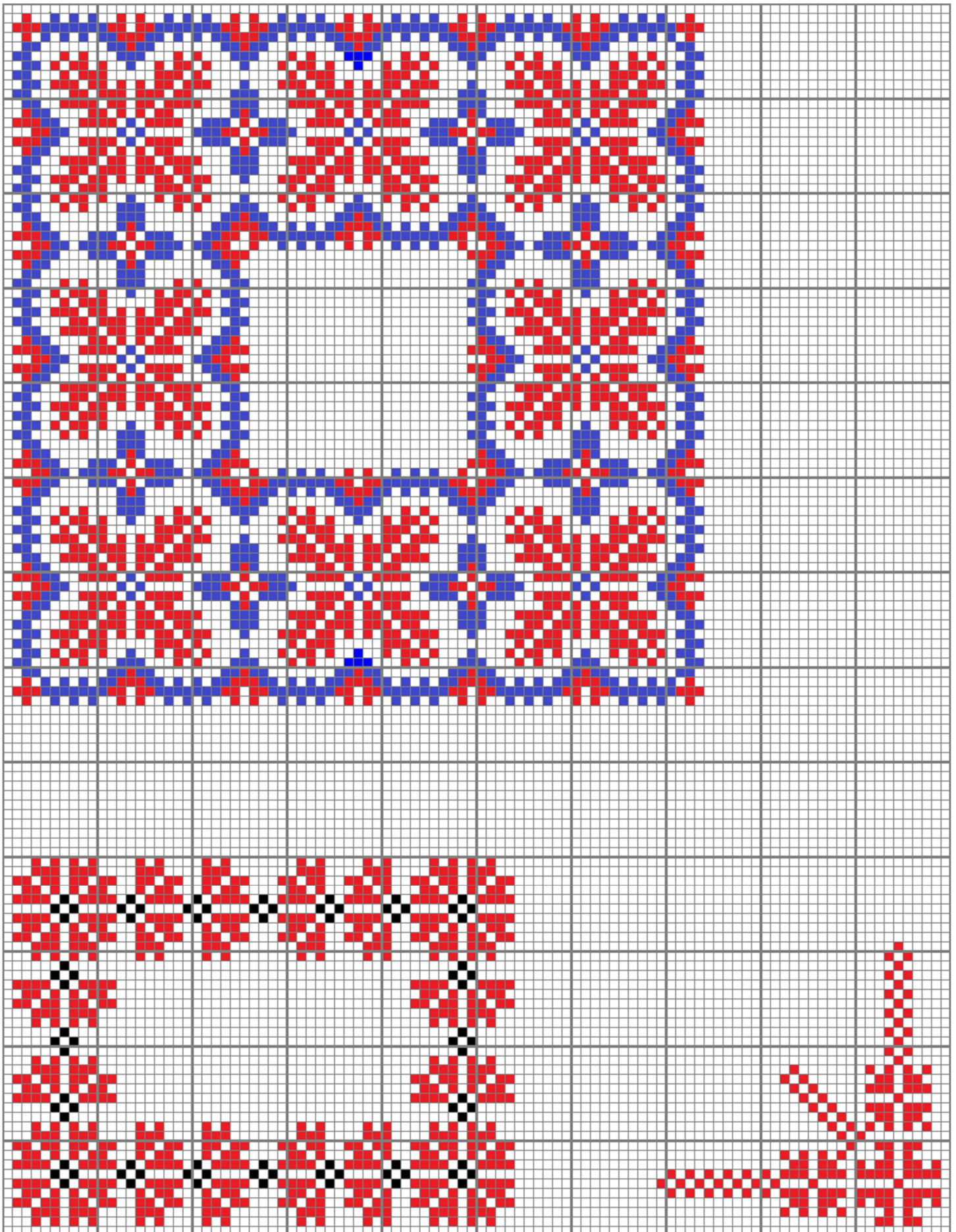


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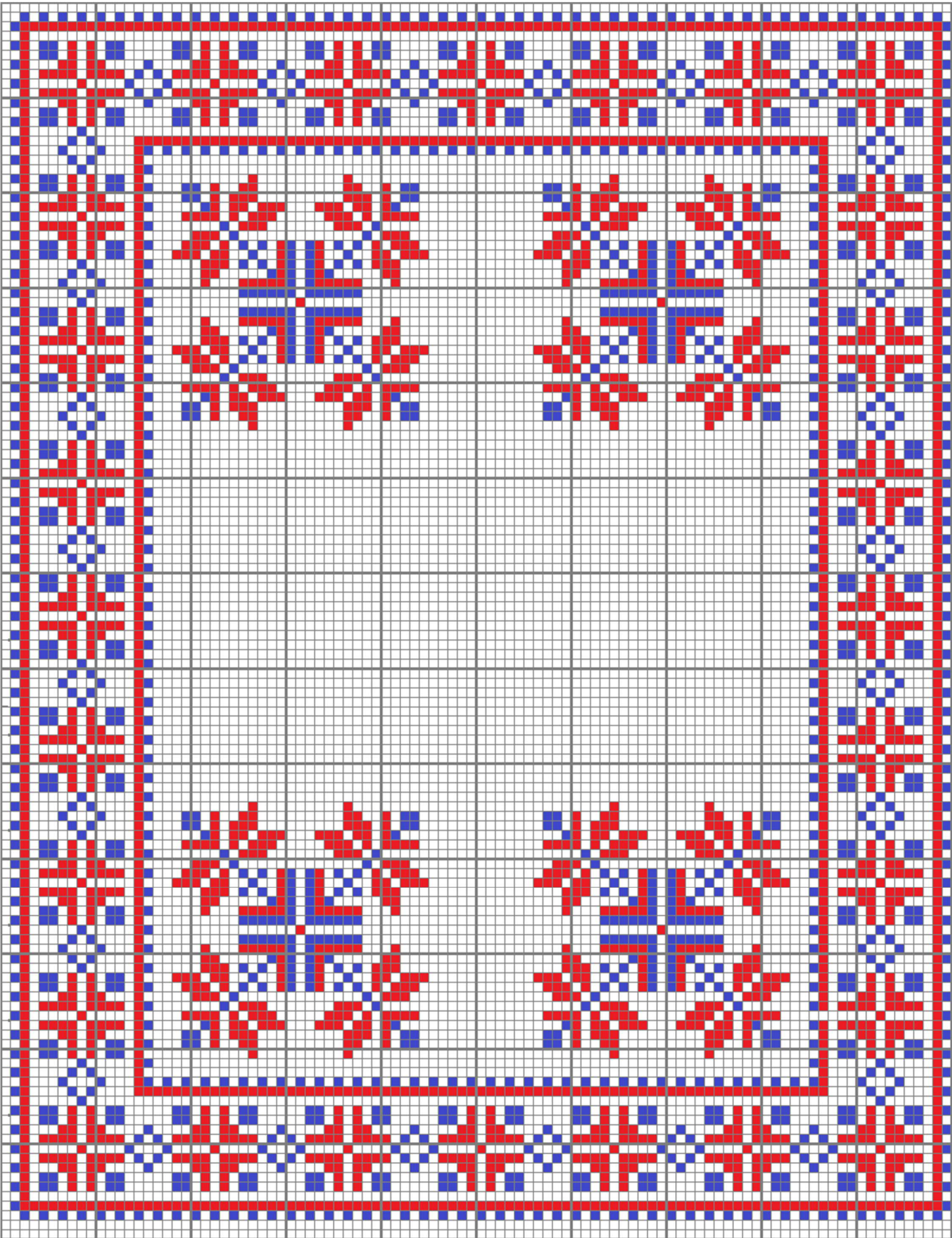


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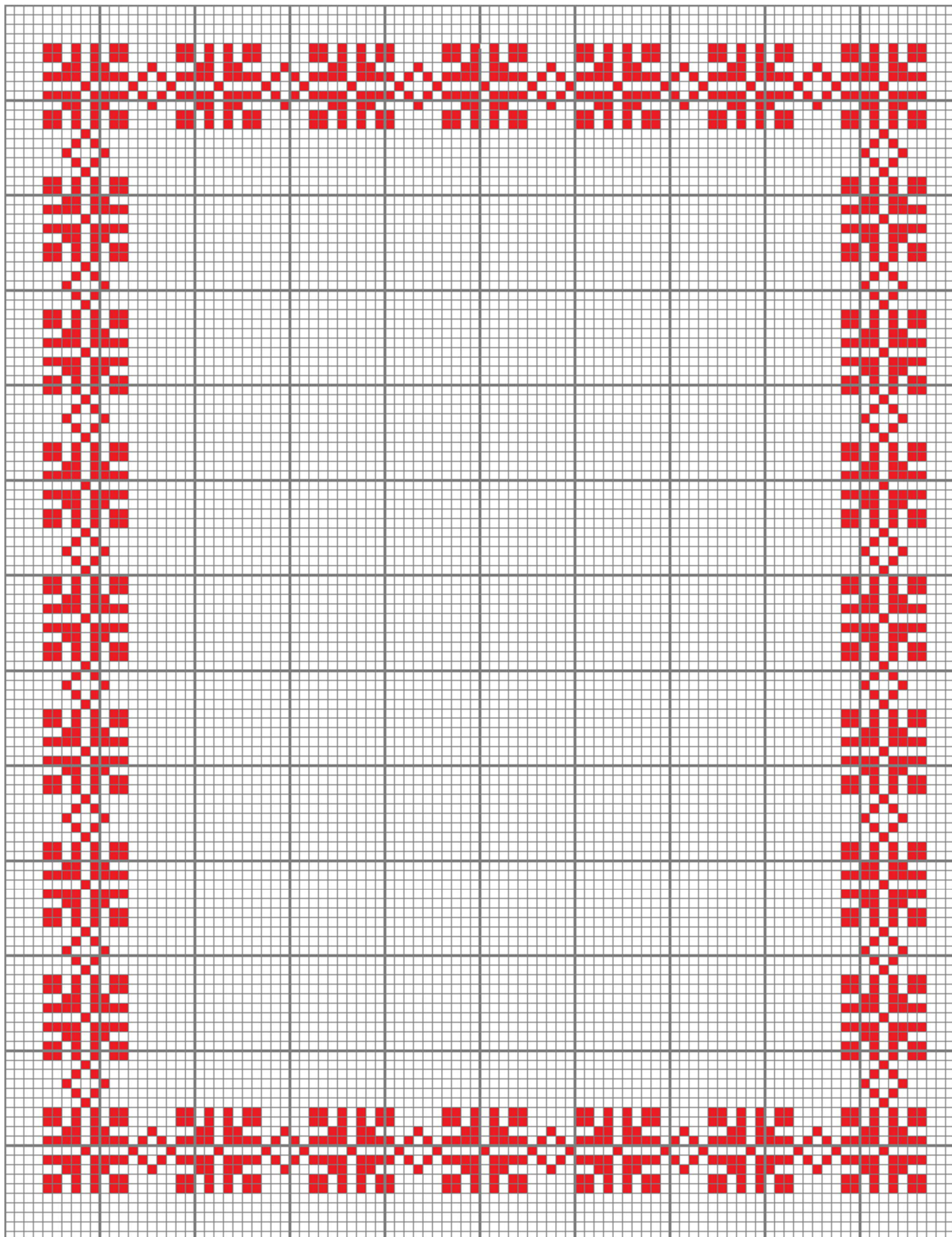


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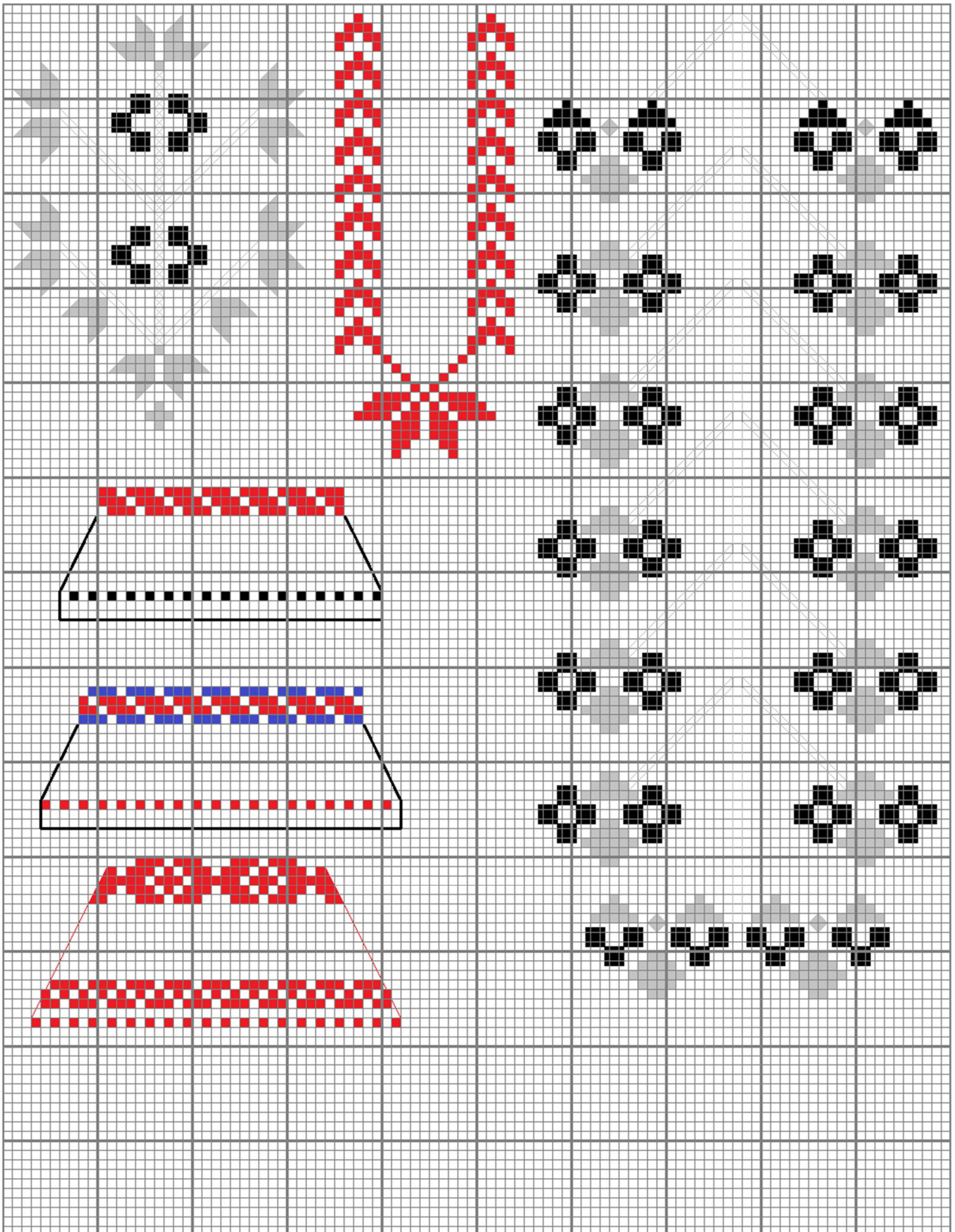


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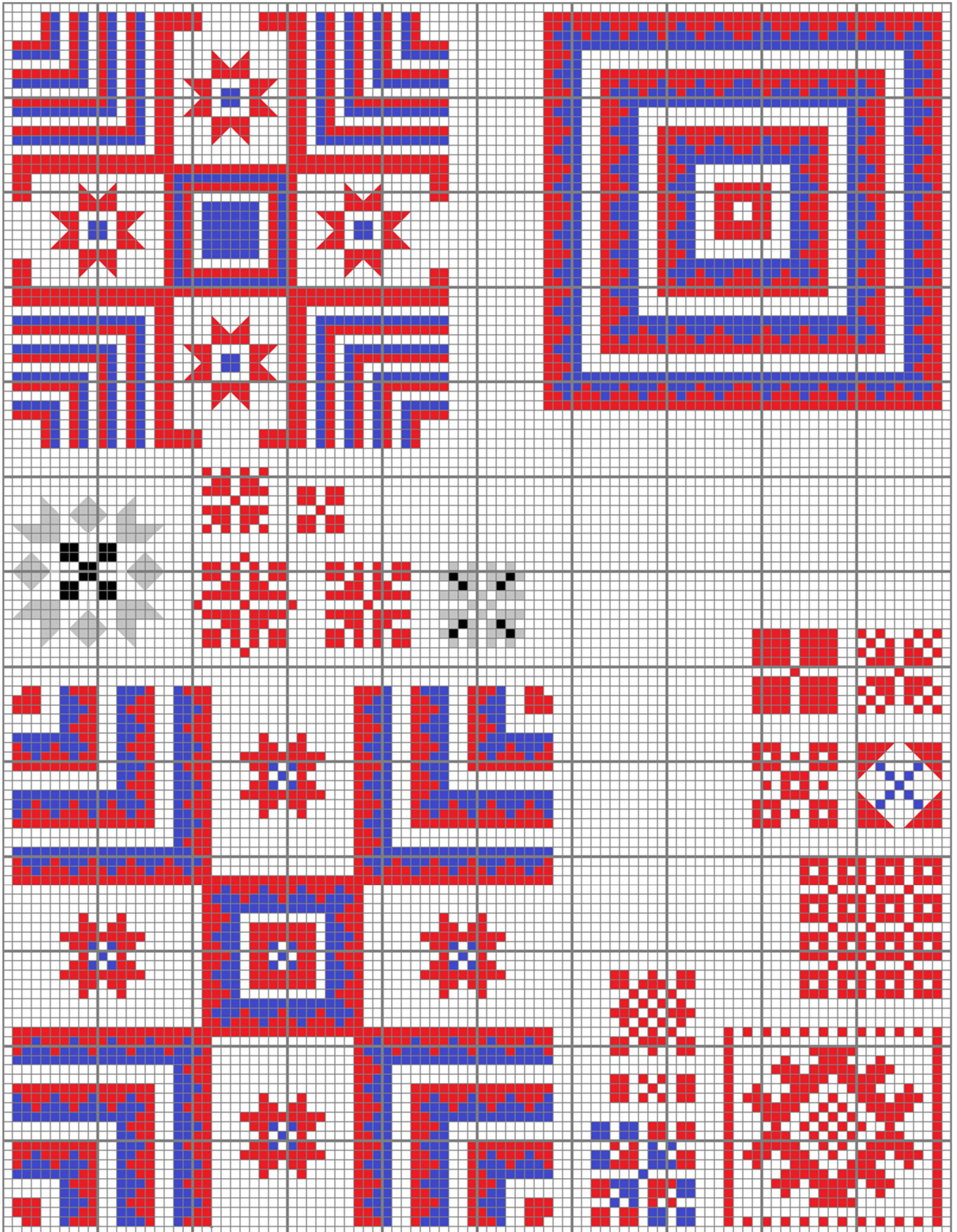


## Plackets &amp; Cuff/Collars



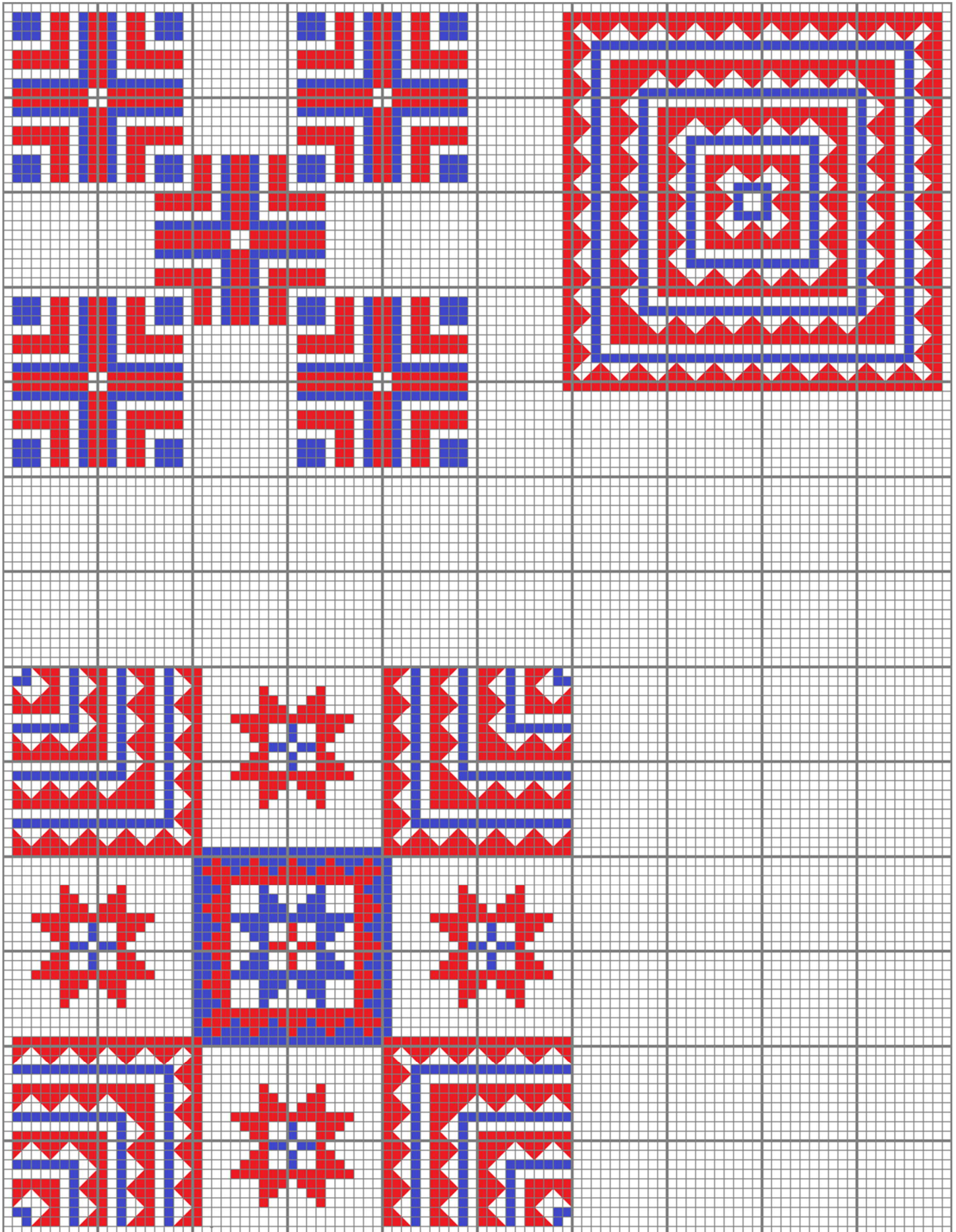


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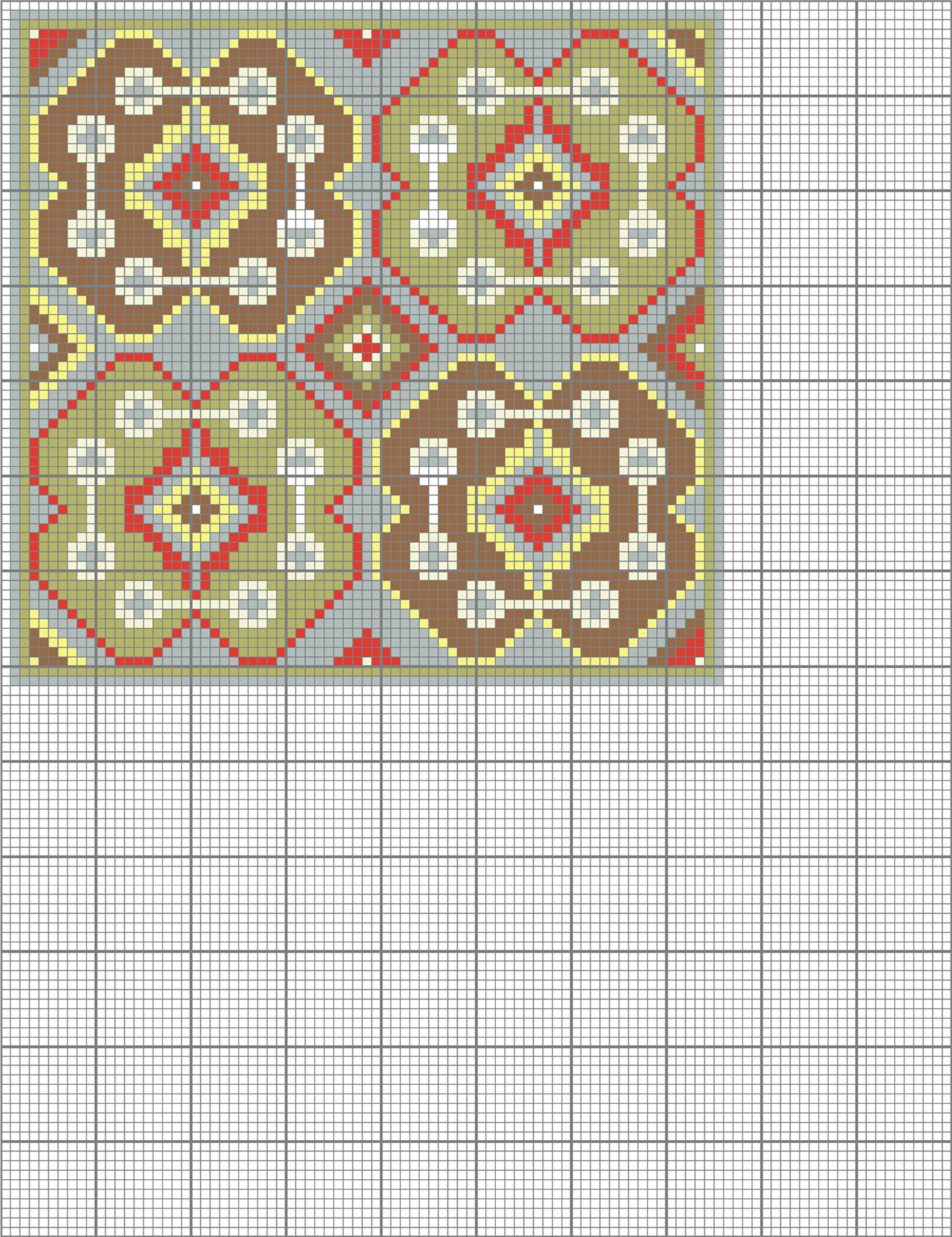


## Blocks and Medallions





Blocks and Medallions



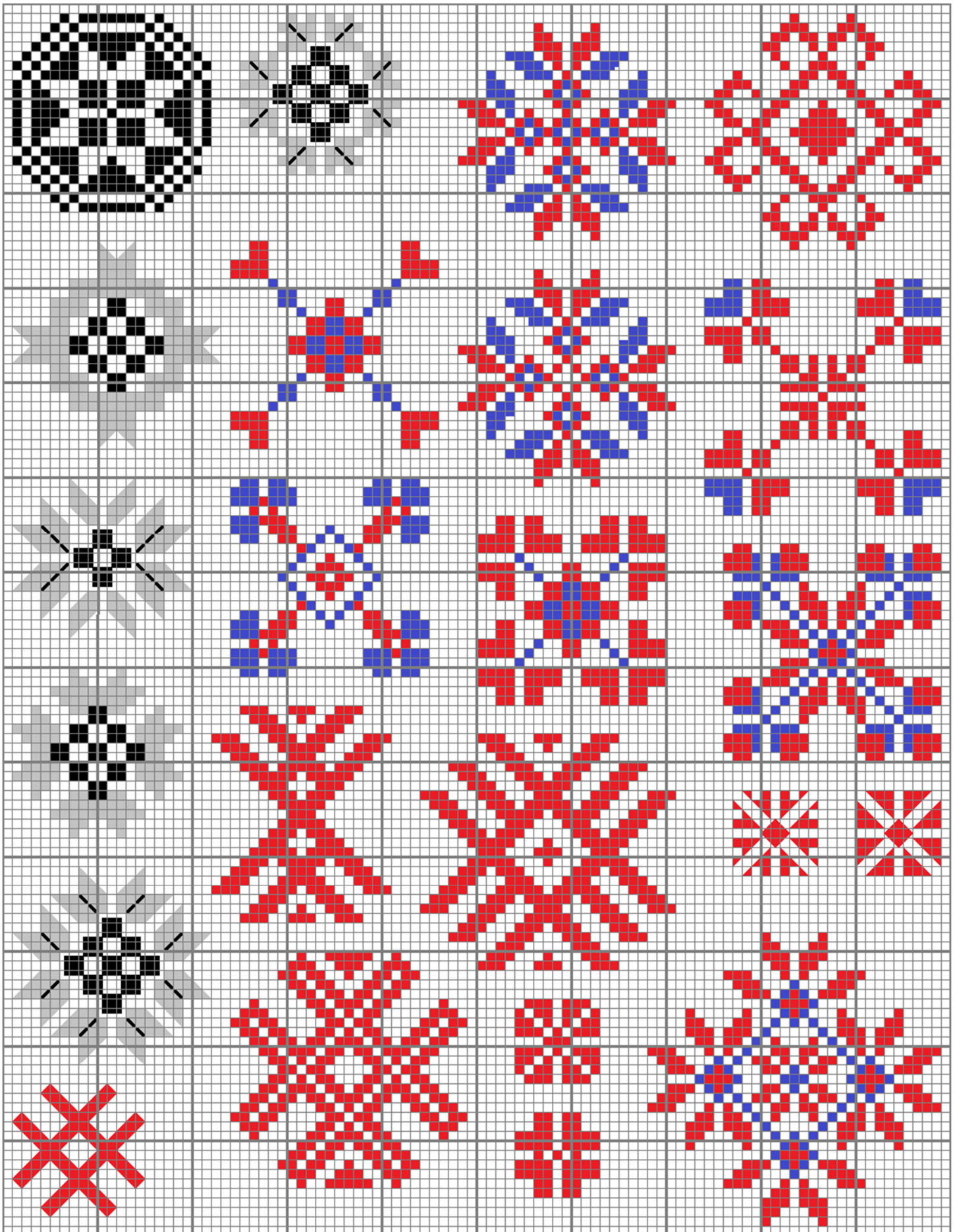


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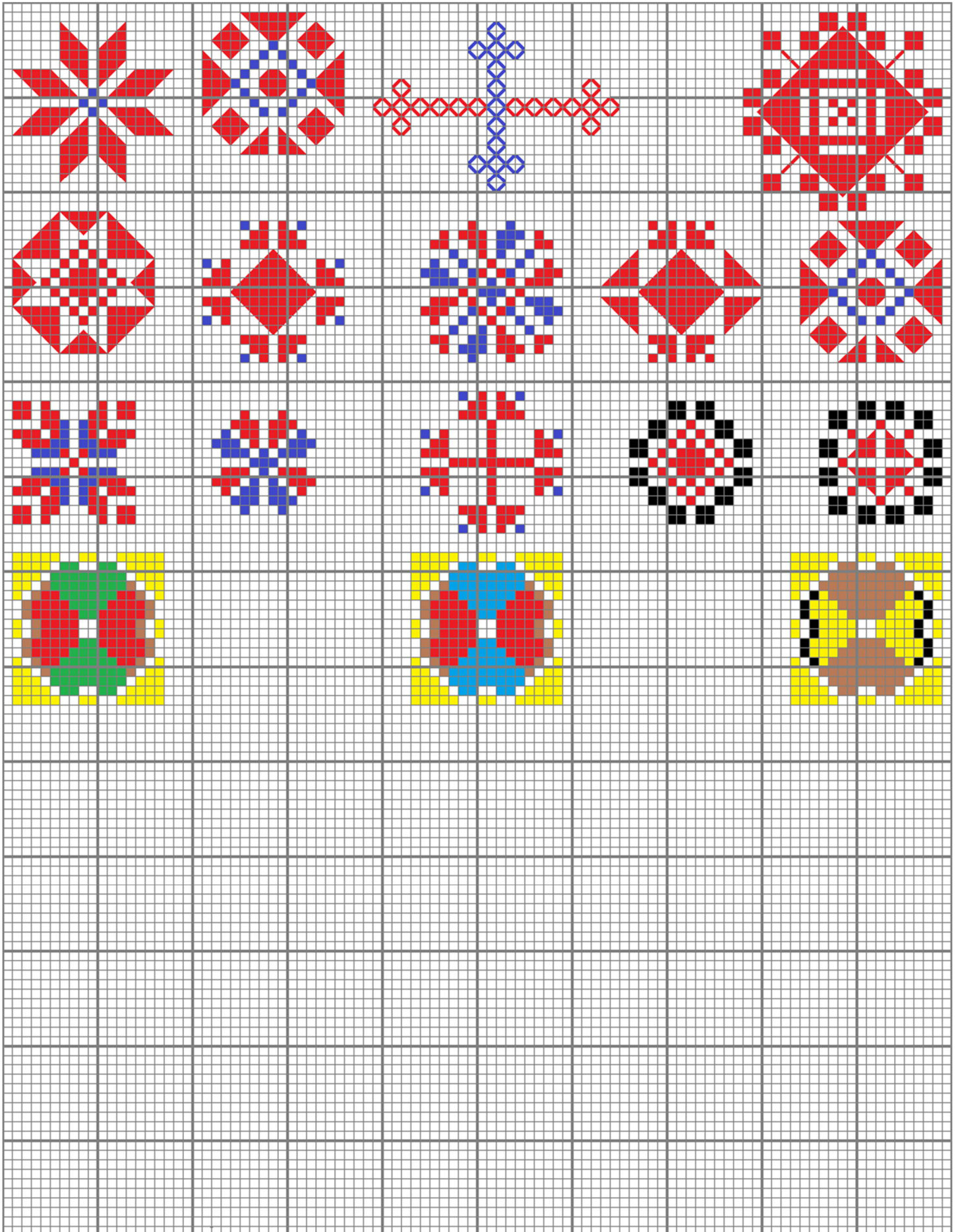


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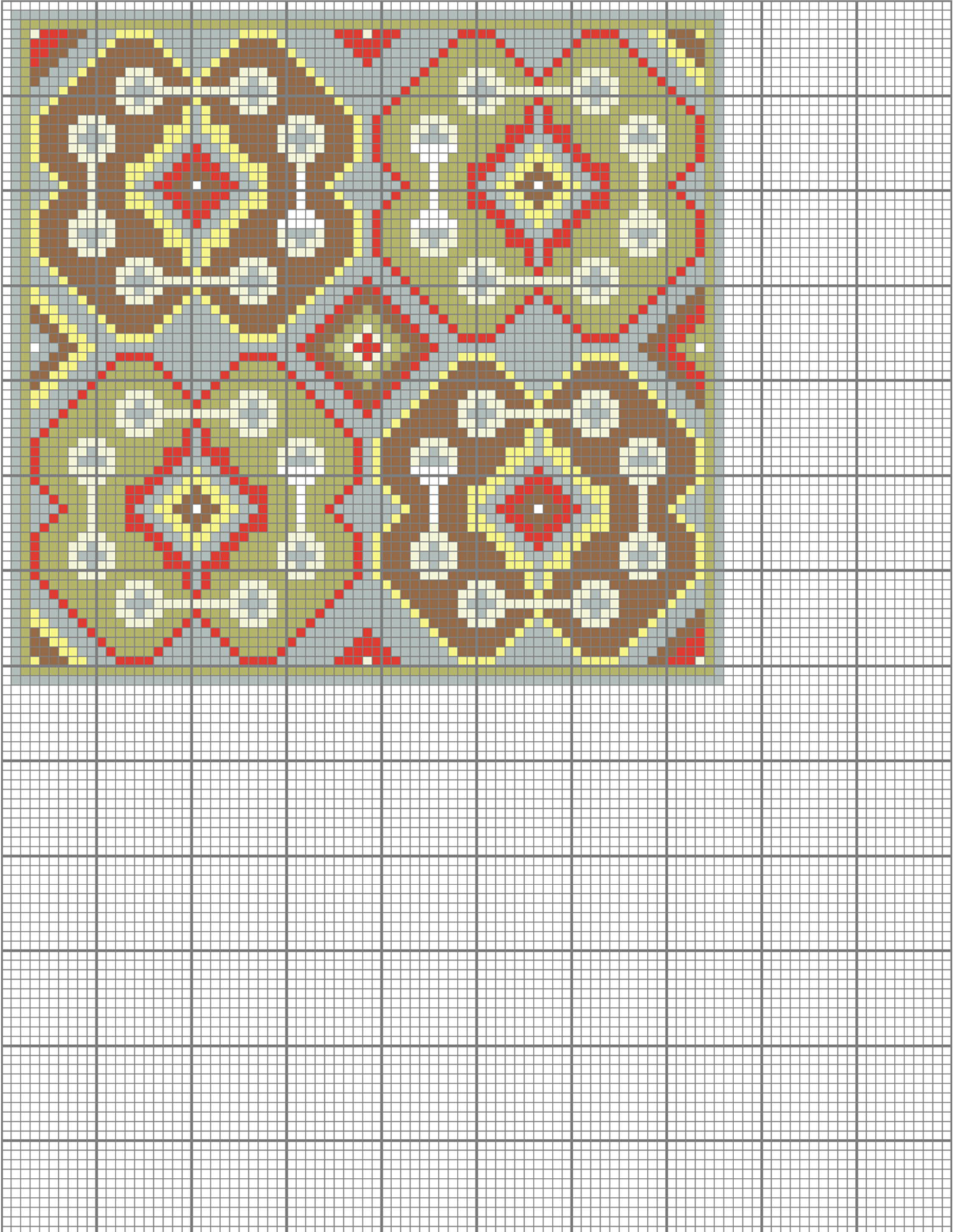


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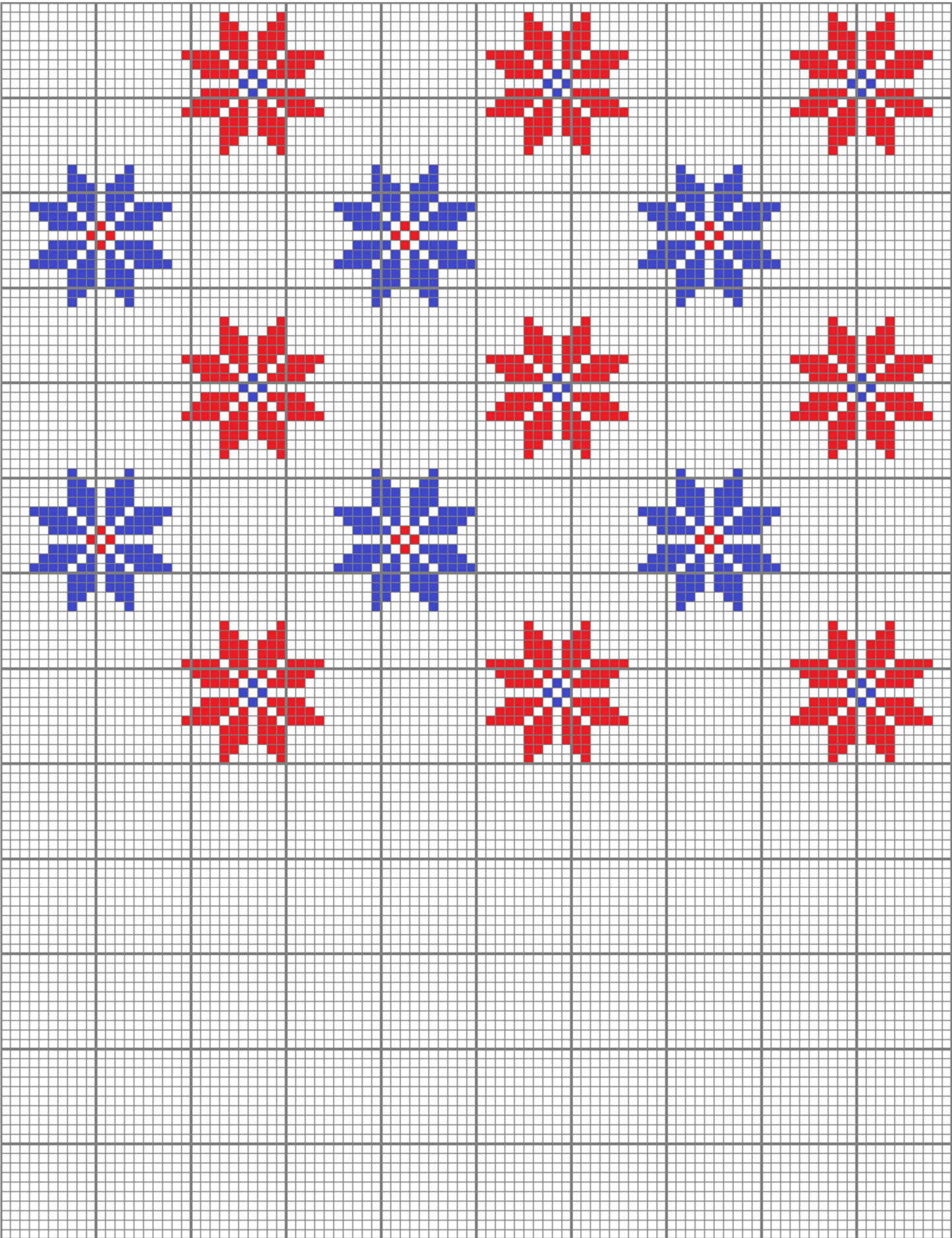


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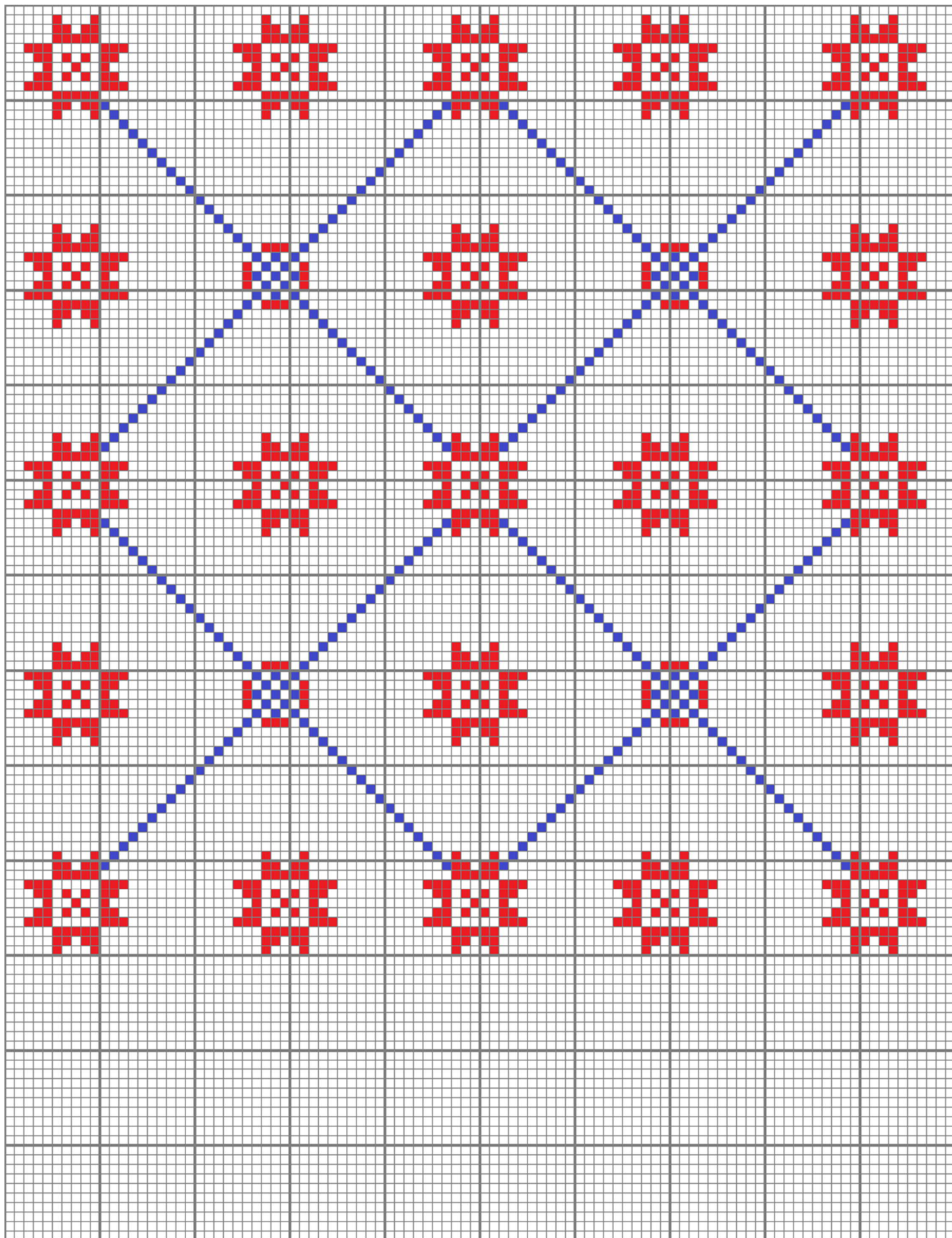


Fills



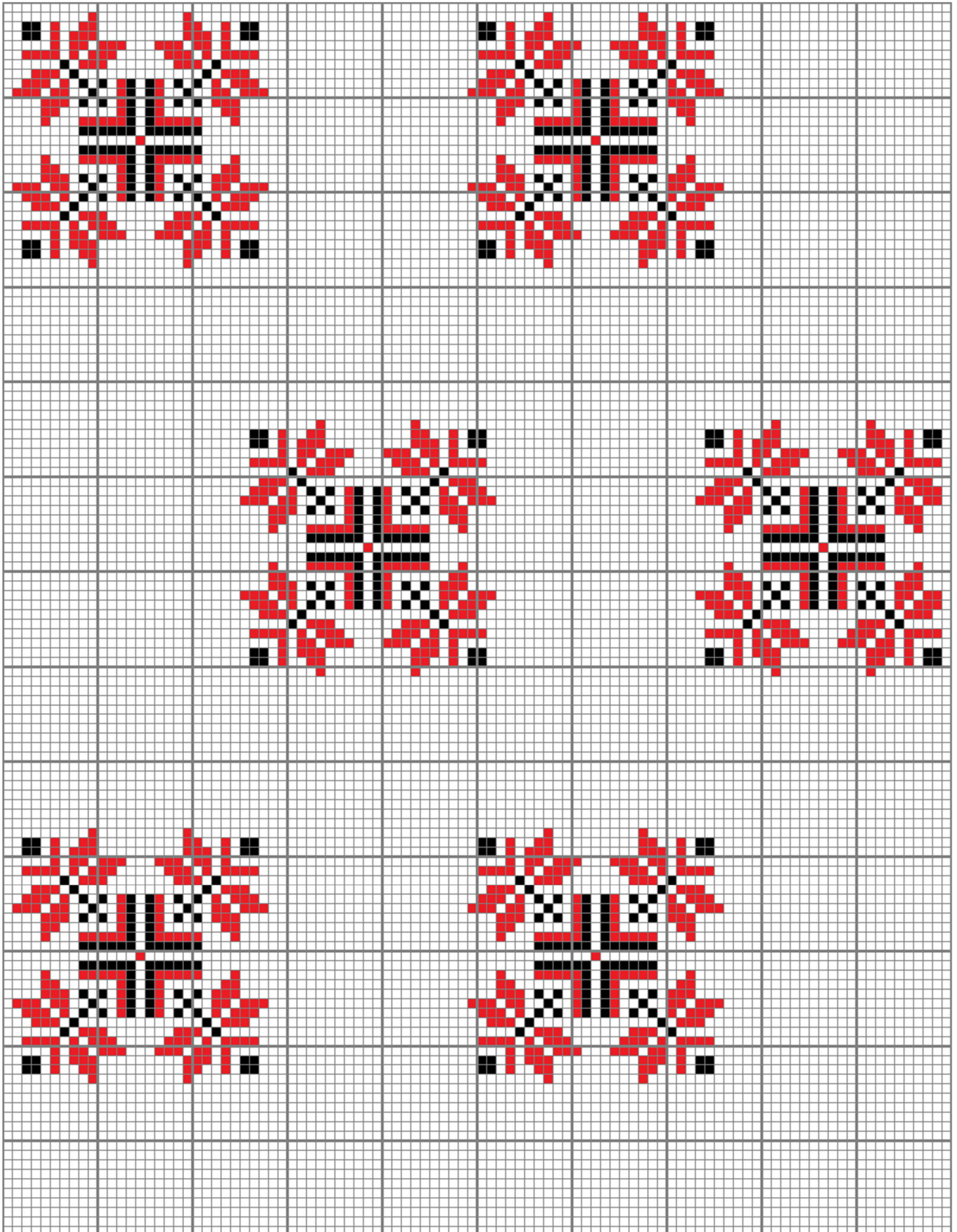


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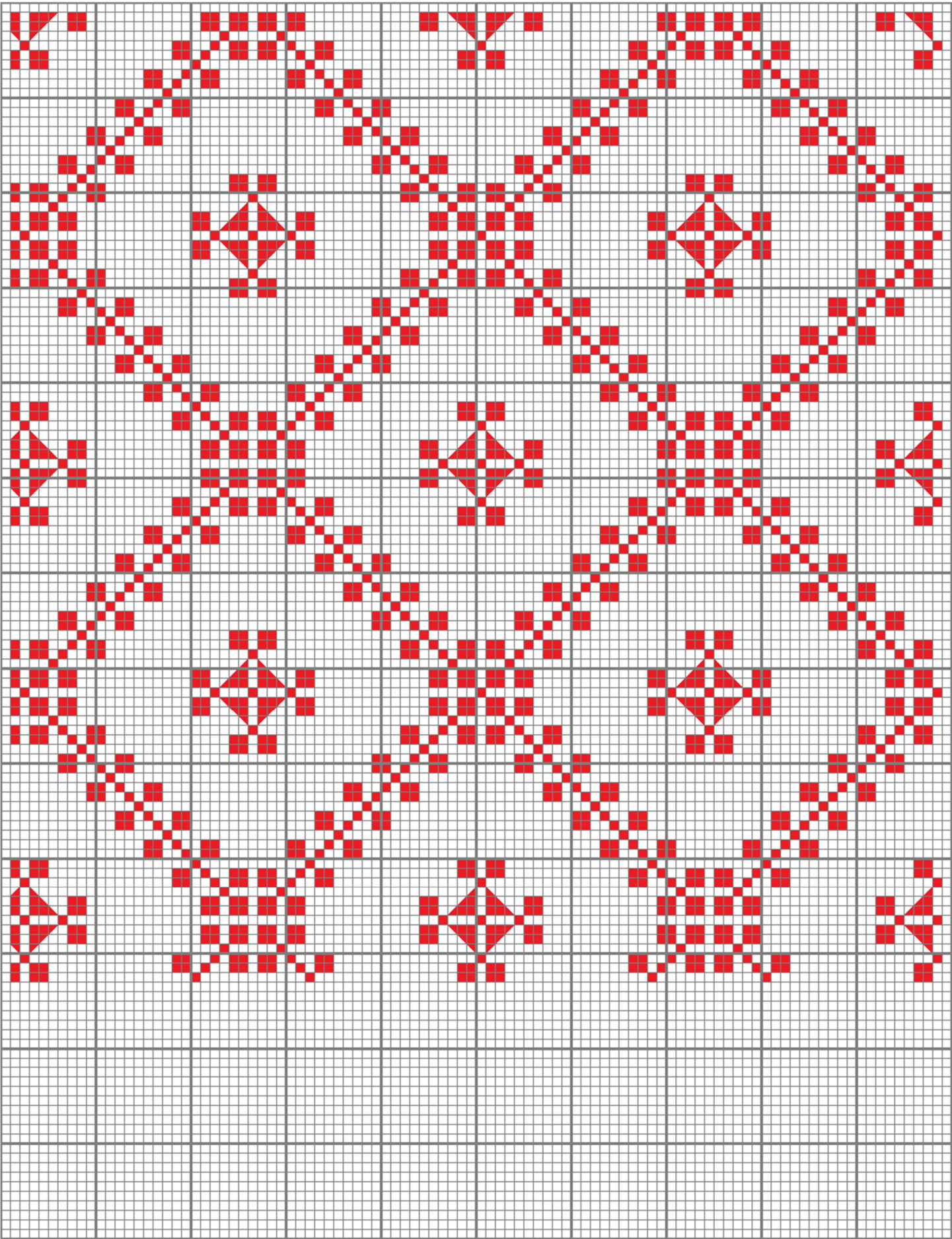


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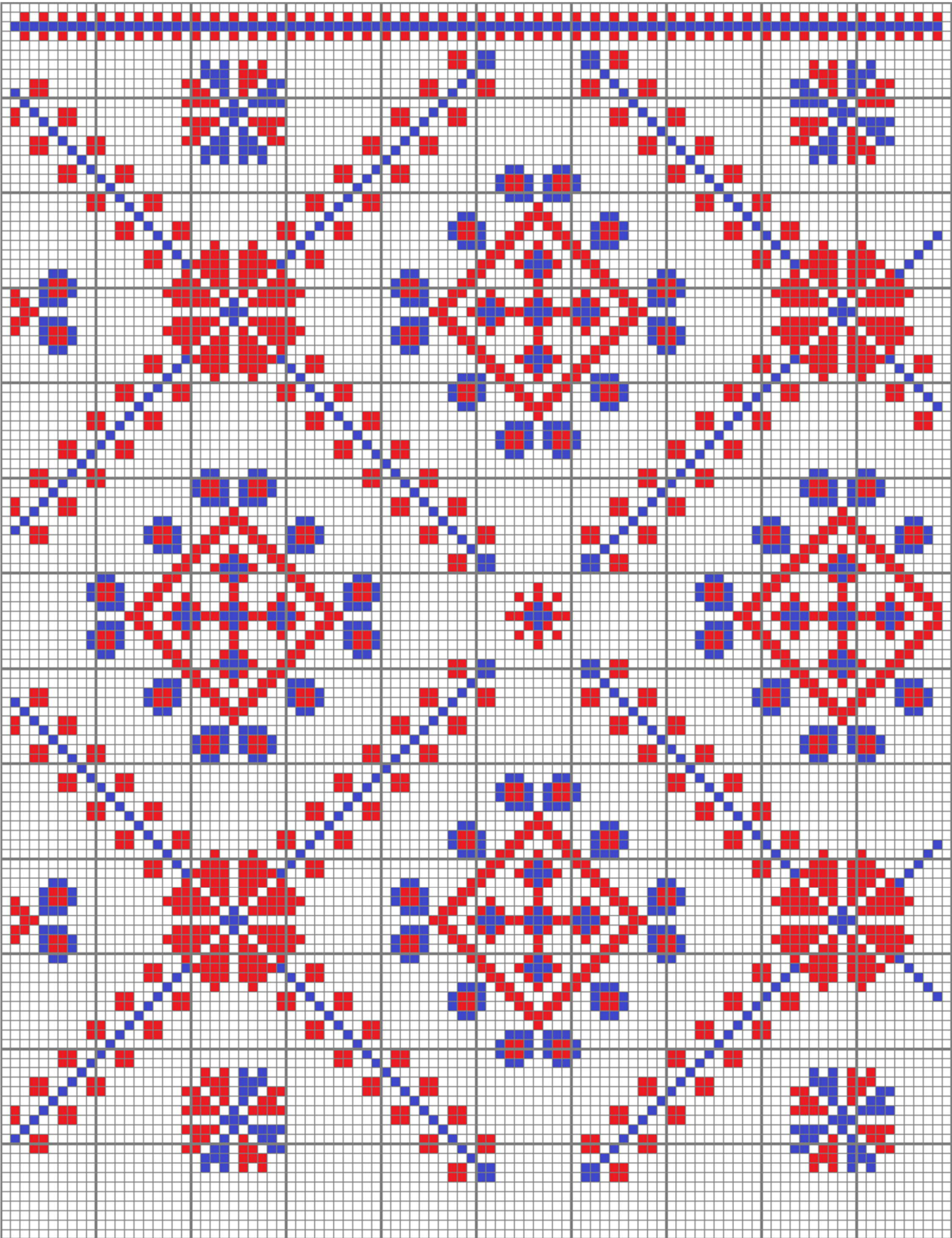


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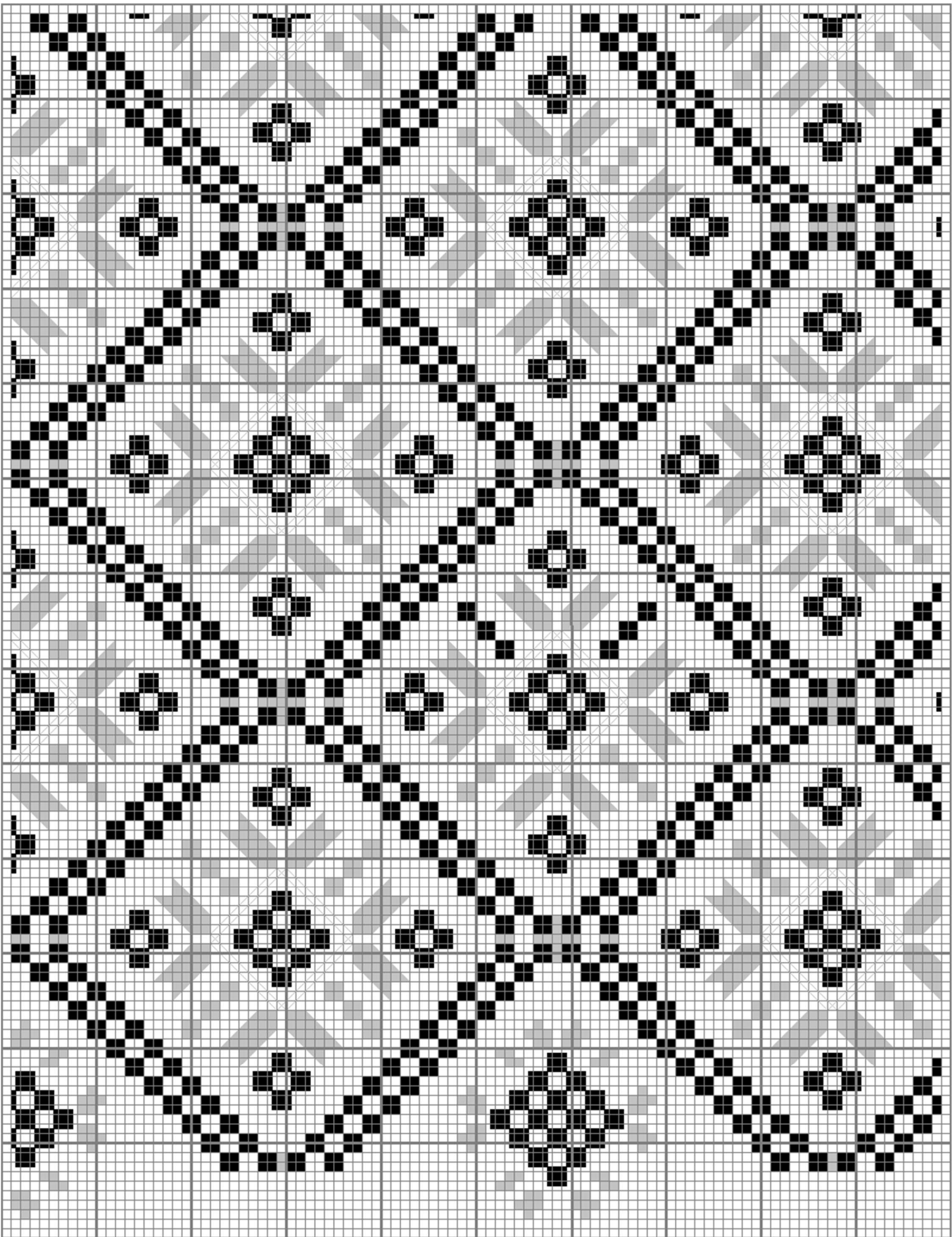


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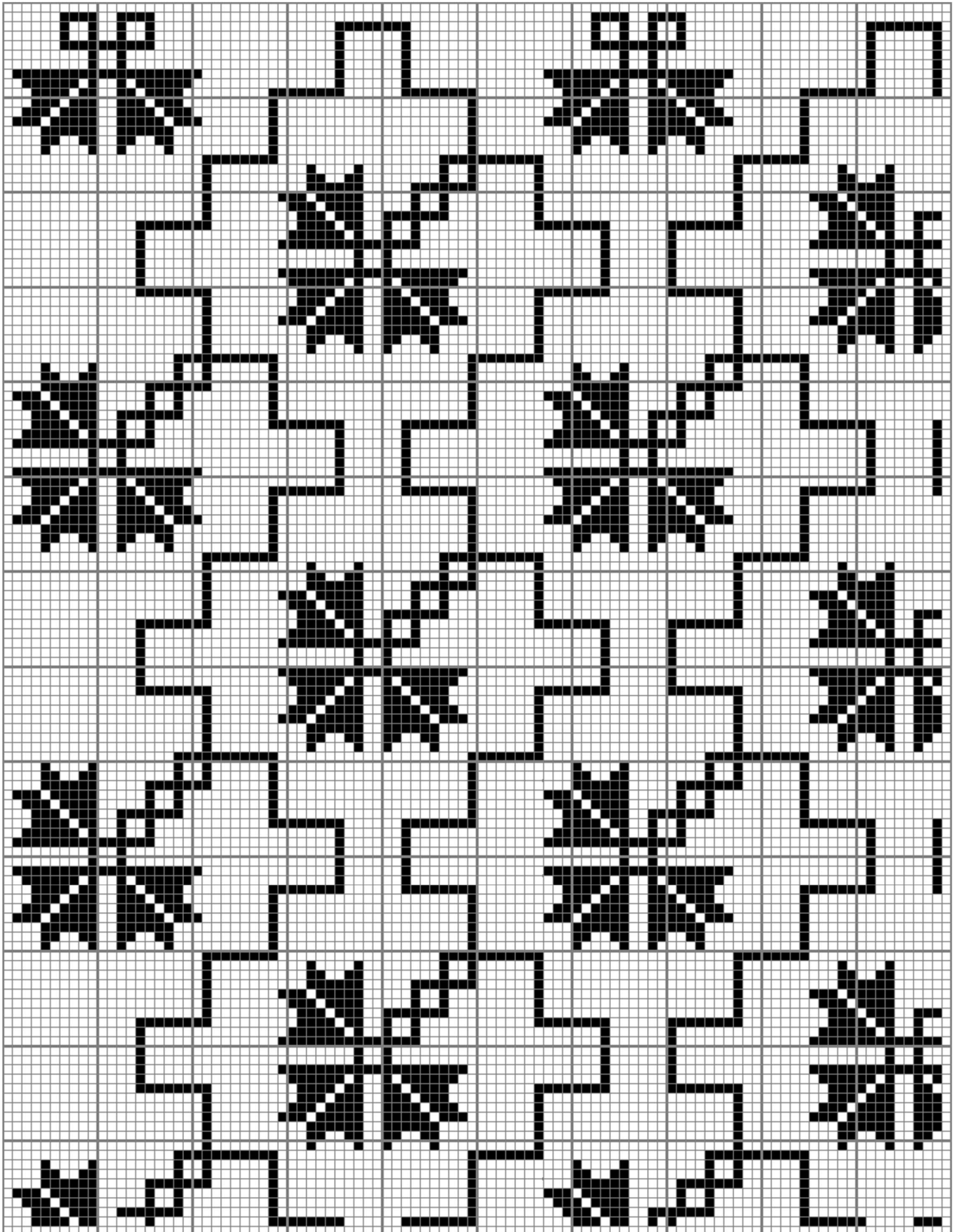


Fills



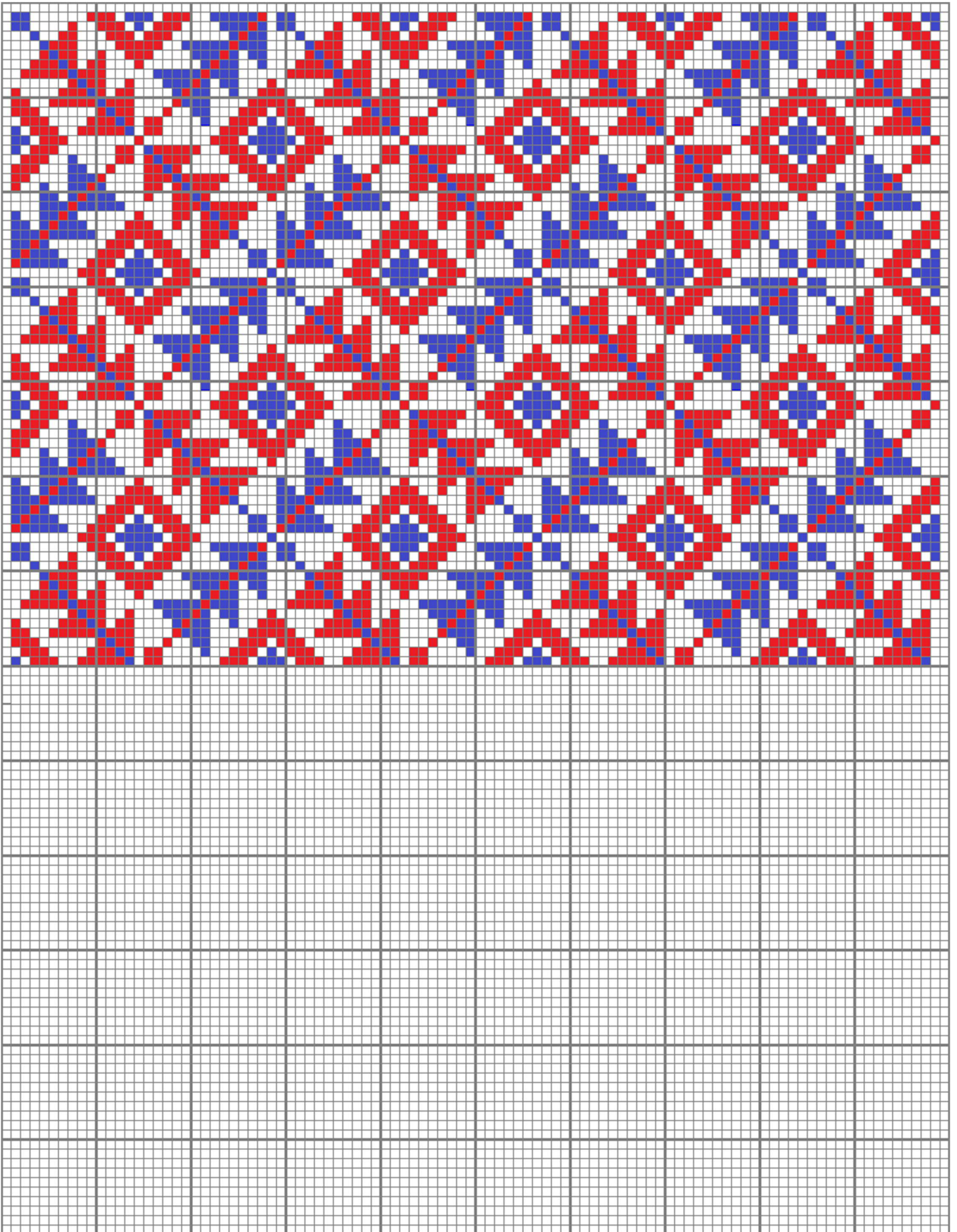


## Fills



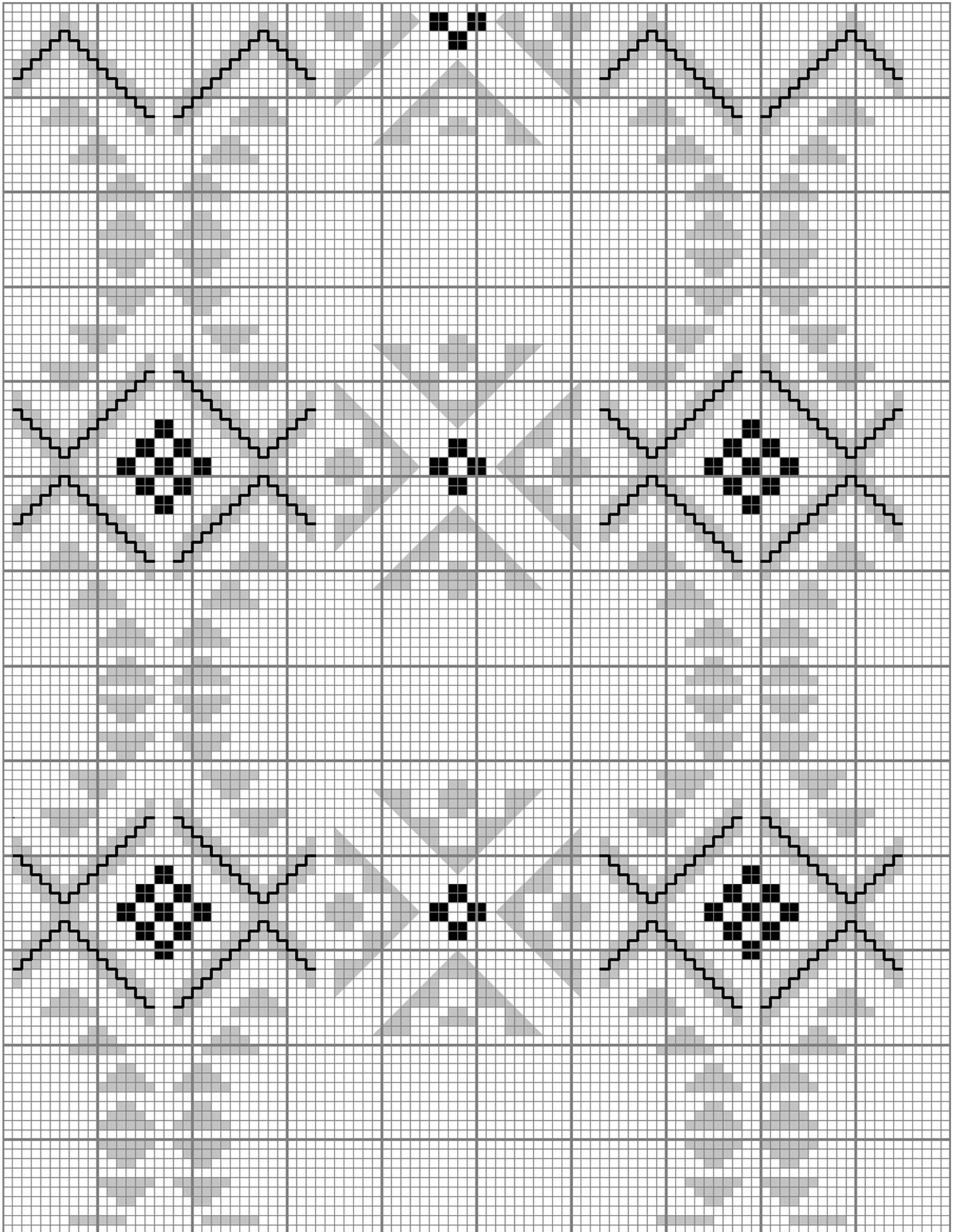


## Fills





## Fills





## Fills

